Woodridge Local Schools
Department of Athletics

2016-17
High School
Student - Athlete
Handbook

Woodridge High School
4440 Quick Rd.
Peninsula, Ohio 44264

330-929-3191 ext. 592104
fax 330-928-5036
www.woodridge.k12.oh.us

Follow @WoodridgeAth
Cancellation of Athletic Events Due to Weather Conditions

If Woodridge Local School District closes school due to inclement weather conditions, High School and/or Middle School athletic events may be postponed or cancelled. During school closings, specific information on sport practices and contests may be obtained by checking with the main office at school or on the web at USATODAYHSS.net. Updates will also be available on the Woodridge Athletics Twitter page @WoodridgeAth.

Athletic Tickets Admission Prices

Woodridge Local School District charges an entry fee for select sports’ home events. The following sports will be charged an admission price:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Sports: Basketball and Wrestling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Sports: Track Invitations</td>
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The price for entry to the above events is:

- **High School Events (Varsity & JV)**
  - Adults: $6.00
  - Students: $4.00

- **Freshmen Only and Middle School Events**
  - Adults: $3.00
  - Students: $2.00

***For Varsity Football games, all tickets at the door are $6.00. Student presale tickets will be $4.00.

Woodridge Local District offers an All-Sport pass that can be purchased in the Athletic Office. Prices for All-Sport passes are as follows:

- Adult All-Sport Pass: $70
- Student All-Sport Pass: $40
- Family Pass: $200

Senior Citizens (Ages 60+) with proper ID will be admitted FREE for home athletic events.

****As Part of the Portage Trail Conference, Woodridge Abides By Previously Determined Ticket Prices For All PTC League-Wide Events Hosted In A Woodridge Local School District Facility.

Bulldog sports schedules are available on the web.

SCHEDULES.SCHEDULESTAR.COM
FULL WEBSITE URL: http://schedules.schedulestar.com/Woodridge-High-School-Peninsula-OH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Woodridge High School: 330-929-3191
WHS Fax: 330-928-5036
Athletics Office: Ext. 592104
WHS Guidance Office: 330-929-5133
Woodridge Middle School: 330-928-7420
WMS Fax: 330-928-5645
WMS Guidance Office: Ext. 593113
Athletic Health Care: 330-929-3191
Ext. 592237

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Woodridge Local School District Mission Statement

The Woodridge Local School District exists to create a sense of community and to meet the needs of our diverse student population as Woodridge Local School District strives for academic excellence.

Woodridge Local School District Statement of Philosophy

The Board of Education believes that the purpose of education in the schools of this District is to facilitate the development of the potential of each child to the fullest. The school staff seeks to recognize individual differences and to engender achievement and progress, not only in basic skills, but in the ability to think independently and critically.

The school staff is concerned with helping young people to understand what the American way of life means; to believe in it and to act democratically in their relationships with others; to develop in themselves attitudes of respect and helpfulness toward others; to want and to be able to perform well some portion of the work of the world and to acquire knowledge and skills necessary to do this with satisfaction to themselves and society; to understand and use effective methods in framing the questions and tackling the problems that they encounter in their lives to the end that they may function politically, economically, and socially in a democratic society.

Our Philosophy:

The basic philosophy of the Woodridge Local School District is governed by a respect for the worth and dignity of every human being. The Board of Education is committed to the physical, mental, emotional, and social development of each child so that s/he may realize the full measure of his/her educational potential and fulfill a purposeful role in our democratic society.

The Woodridge Board of Education believes: The schools exist primarily to help young persons become caring, responsible, and informed individuals - capable of functioning effectively in society. Education must prepare students to participate fully in a future which is unknown and unpredictable and to that end must assist them in acquiring skills necessary to be life-long learners.

Basic knowledge, skills, understanding, and appreciation are necessary for full-life functioning.

The development of self-appraisal skills and decision-making techniques is necessary for assuming the responsibility of setting realistic, immediate, and long-range academic and career goals.

The educational program shall exist within an environment that is conducive to the maximum intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of each child; shall provide opportunities and experiences that will help each child to realize that s/he is a person of worth, dignity, and potential; shall provide for the fullest possible development of the talents and potentialities of all students in order that they can participate fully in the cultural, political, social, and economic life of our democracy.

The education of our youth is a responsibility to be shared by family, school, religious officials, and other community organizations.

Woodridge Local School District Administration & Staff

Walter Davis, Superintendent
Joyce Roth, Administrative Assistant
Kirk Bennett, Director of Academic Services
Valerie Riedthaler, Director of Pupil Services
Deanna Levenger, Treasurer
Eric Unangst, Director of Technology
Vinnie Spitali, Buildings & Grounds Supervisor

Woodridge HS/MS Administration & Athletics Staff

Joel Morgan, Principal, Woodridge High School
Raymond Braunscheidel, Assistant Principal, WHS
Mary Neff, Principal's Secretary, WHS
Nick Mayer, Athletic & Activities Director, WHS & WMS
Ann Marie Rausch, Athletics Secretary, WHS
Jesse Hosford, Principal, WMS
Albert DiTommaso, Assistant Principal, WMS
Kathy Robison, Secretary, Woodridge Middle School
Woodridge Bulldog Interscholastic Sports

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<th>WINTER SPORTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Cheerleading</td>
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<td>Boys Golf (HS Only)</td>
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<td>Girls Golf (HS Only)</td>
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<td>Softball (HS Only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls Track and Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys Tennis (HS Only)</td>
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**Admission for track invitationals only**

Bold denotes charges for admission

Mission and Goals of Woodridge Interscholastic Athletics

It Is The Goal Of Interscholastic Athletics To...

- Effectively develop skills of student-athletes through strong and meaningful coaching.
- Adequately prepare student-athletes to be competitive with other teams of the same skill level.
- Put student-athletes in a position to succeed.
- Offer a dynamic educational experience to student-athletes outside of the classroom in order to develop life skills that will be valuable in the future.

Our Mission as an Athletic Department is to provide student athletes at Woodridge High School and Woodridge Middle School the opportunity to enhance the education they receive in the classroom through meaningful competition & effective an drelevant coaching.

Portage Trail Conference

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<tr>
<td>Cloverleaf</td>
<td>James A. Garfield</td>
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<td>Field</td>
<td>Lake Center Christian</td>
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<td>Norton</td>
<td>Mogadore</td>
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<td>Ravenna</td>
<td>Rootstown</td>
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<td>Springfield</td>
<td>Southeast</td>
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<td>Streetsboro</td>
<td>Waterloo</td>
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Policies & Guidelines for Student-Athletes & Parents
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Welcome to Woodridge Athletics!

Woodridge Athletics, in grades 7-12, abide by the regulations set forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and compete within the Portage Trail Conference’s (PTC) Metro Division. Woodridge offers a wide variety of athletic opportunities over three sports seasons (Fall, Winter, and Spring).

The Woodridge Local School District believes that interscholastic athletic competition is an extremely valuable tool and acts as a great supplement to what is learned in the classroom. As a result, we believe that interscholastic athletics help develop our students into well rounded citizens.

It Is The Goal Of Interscholastic Athletics To...

- Effectively develop skills of student-athletes through strong and meaningful coaching.
- Adequately prepare student-athletes to be competitive with other teams of the same skill level.
- Put student-athletes in a position to succeed.
- Offer a dynamic educational experience to student-athletes outside of the classroom in order to develop life skills that will be valuable in the future.

Philosophy

- The Woodridge Local School District believes that extra class and school activities are a privilege and a part of the general school program.
- The Woodridge Local School District believes students have no absolute right to participate in co-curricular activities, but a privilege that is strongly encouraged. The additional time and requirements of such activities demand each student attain and maintain his/her best possible physical and mental condition.
- The Woodridge Local School District recognizes the use and abuse of mind-altering chemicals as well as alcohol and tobacco/nicotine is a significant health problem for adolescents, against the law, and will affect the development of the skills necessary to successfully participate in co-curricular activities.
- The Woodridge Local School District believes co-curricular activities make school more rewarding. Adherence to certain codes of behavior and academic standards enhances an individual’s quality of life.

Requirements for Student-Athlete Participation

As a student-athlete, you are not eligible to participate in any sport until the following is completed:

1. OHSAA Physical Examination Form
2. Emergency Medical Authorization Form
3. OHSAA Authorization and Consent Form
4. OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statement
5. OHSAA Concussion Information Sheet
6. All academic eligibility requirements satisfied
7. Attend preseason student-athlete and parent meeting (Held at WHS)

Physical Examinations are valid for one calendar year from the date of the physician’s signature. Emergency Medical Authorizations and OHSAA Eligibility and Authorization Statements and OHSAA Authorization Forms must be completed each academic year.
OHSAA and Woodridge Local School District Eligibility

To be academically eligible to participate in athletics, students in grades 7 and 8 must be currently enrolled in Woodridge Middle School and have received passing grades in a minimum of five subjects in the immediately preceding grading period. Students in grades 9-12 must be currently enrolled in Woodridge High School, and have received passing grades in a minimum of five, one credit courses, or the equivalent. The Woodridge Local School District’s Board of Education’s policy also requires a student to achieve a 1.5 grade point average for the preceding grading period.

- The eligibility of a student-athlete continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period.
- Eligibility for each grading period is determined by grades received the preceding grading period. *Semester and yearly grades have no effect on eligibility. 7th grade student athletes are automatically eligible for the first grading period of their 7th grade year. 9th grade eligibility is determined by grades received in the final grading period of 8th grade.*
- For eligibility purposes, summer school grades may not be used to substitute for failing grades received in the final grading period of the regular school year or for lack of enough courses taken the preceding grading period.
- **Students will be required to attend Homework Assistance Center (H.A.C.) if they become conditionally eligible, that is, eligible but have below a 2.0 GPA for that respective grading period.** The conditionally eligible student must attend H.A.C. two hours each week. Failure to attend will result in a denal of participation in games or events for the following week.

*Do not change your course schedule or drop a course without first consulting the principal or athletic director to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.*

OHSAA Preseason Meeting and Student-Athlete Eligibility

The Ohio High School Athletic Association requires student-athletes and parents attend a preseason meeting held at Woodridge High School and receive the publication “Student-Athlete Eligibility Guide”. The guide can be found on pages 15-19 in this handbook. Take the time to read this publication and become familiar with the eligibility requirements established by the OHSAA.

Student-Athlete Risk of Participation

All student-athletes and parents or guardians must realize the risk of serious injury, permanent disability or death which may be a result of athletic participation. Woodridge Local School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury:

- Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
- Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.

Individual Sport Rules

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sports. Penalties will be designated/handled by their respective coach(s). Participants and parents will be informed in writing before the season.

Attendance Requirements

Student-athletes are **required to be in attendance at school for the last half of the official school day in order** to be eligible on that day for participation in an athletic practice or contest. If there are special circumstances regarding attendance, the student-athlete’s parent or guardian should contact the athletic director for consideration of waiving the attendance requirement. Students with excessive tardy problems could be restricted from participation in the future.

Suspended or Expelled Students

Students who have been suspended out-of-school or expelled from school are NOT permitted on school property or at any school sponsored-event, home or away, for the duration of such disciplinary action.
Suspended or Expelled Students (Cont.)

Failure to abide by the WHS or WMS discipline policy, which results in an out-of-school suspension, will result in the following:

First Offense
A student suspended out-of-school for the first time will be denied participation for all contests/performances during the duration of the suspension period while they are in season. In addition to games, contests/performances missed during a suspension period, the student will miss a minimum of 10% of the contests/events (season or tournament) based on the number of regular season scheduled events during their particular sport/co-curricular season. Also, the coach/advisor of the sport or co-curricular activity may extend the denial of participation for the student upon their return to the team/activity at his or her own discretion.

Second Offense
A student suspended out-of-school for the second time while in season or participating in a co-curricular event during the school year will be denied participation for 20% of the contests/events (season or tournament), based on the number of regular season/scheduled events.

Third Offense
A student suspended out-of-school for the third time will be denied participation for the remainder of their sports’ or co-curricular(s) season during the school year.

Athletic Conduct Code

The Board of Education believes that co-curricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, can be an important part of a student’s educational experience in Woodridge Local School District. Because participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege all students may enjoy during good conduct, students may be denied participation from any particular or all co-curricular activities by the Superintendent, Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director or other Administrator, for up to one calendar year. Multiple offenses may lead to denial of participation from co-curricular activities for the balance of the student’s middle school or high school career. The period of co-curricular denial of participation may extend, as appropriate, into the subsequent school year at the discretion of the Administrator imposing the denial of participation. Due process procedures, including appeal to the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education, are outlined in the following sections. School issued student handbooks supersede this athletic handbook.

Scope of the Athletic Conduct Code

All student-athletes in Woodridge Local School District are to abide by the Woodridge Local School District Student Conduct Code and the Athletic Conduct Code. Violation of either code may lead to the denial of participation of the teams’ practice(s) and contest(s) or other penalties.

- The Athletic Conduct Code goes into effect for Fall student athletes on the first allowable date for mandatory practices (as determined by the OHSAA) and continues year round for the duration of the student’s academic career (i.e. Beginning at the start of the 7th grade and continues until graduation from Woodridge High School.)
- For Winter and Spring sports student athletes, the Athletic Conduct Code goes into effect on the first day of school and is in effect year round for the duration of the student’s academic career.
- The Athletic Conduct Code will be in effect for all athletes for the entire school year and will carry over from the fall to the winter to the spring sports seasons.
- If a violation occurs at or near the end of a sport season or activity, or if the student is not “in season” at the time of the violation, then the penalty will be appropriately adjusted and/or applied to the next “in-season” sport or activity in which the student is a regular participant, i.e., a sport or activity in which the student has tried-out or participated in previously. Students (except freshmen) suspended under this rule may not avoid the consequences of a denial of participation by trying out or participating in a new sport or activity i.e., one in which he or she is not a regular participant. In such cases, the suspension would apply to the next sport or activity in which the student is a regular participant.
Areas of Denial of Participation

Students participating in (or planning to participate in) any activity will not at any time possess, use, sell, offer to sell, deliver, conceal, consume, be under the influence of, nor have on their breath, any drug, counterfeit drug, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, or anabolic steroid. Medication authorized by a licensed physician is not considered a violation of this provision.

The provisions of the TAOD policy are in effect for all students participating in co-curricular activities year round. Regardless of the timing of an infraction, a student will face consequences as prescribed by the Code of Conduct. When a new school year commences, students may begin the year without any restrictions or previous actions being held against them, except in the case when there is a carry-over of a restriction from the previous year.

TOBACCO/NICOTINE

Students shall not use or have in their possession tobacco in any form, as defined in the student handbook.

a. First Tobacco/Nicotine Offense
   • A student found in violation for the first time will be denied participation for 20% of the contests/events (season or tournament), based on the number of regular season/scheduled events. Should the infraction occur at the end of a season, part or all of the denial of participation will carry over to the next sports/co-curricular season that the student participates.
   • If the student agrees to attend an approved smoking / tobacco/ nicotine cessation program approved by the school district, and successfully completes that program, then the penalty is reduced to 10%. In order to use this option, the student must enroll and attend the next scheduled class or program. The cost of the program will be the responsibility of the student and their parent or guardian. The school is not financially responsible for any costs to the student or their family.

b. Second Tobacco/Nicotine Offense
   • A student found in violation for the second time will be denied participation for 50% of the contests/events/activities (season or tournament), based on the number of regular season/ scheduled events.

c. Third Tobacco/Nicotine Offense
   • A student found in violation for the third time will be denied participation from any athletic/co-curricular activity for one calendar year from the date of the violation.
   • The administration has the authority to skip steps and invoke a more stringent penalty for continued violations of the TAOD policy in successive years.
**DRUG OR ALCOHOL POSSESSION AND/OR USE**

Students shall not knowingly possess, buy, sell, use, supply, transfer, or show evidence of use of any controlled or counterfeit substance, including but not limited to narcotics, hallucinogenic, alcohol, steroids, marijuana, and/or paraphernalia related to any of these substances as outlined by the student handbook.

a. **First Drug or Alcohol Offense**
   - A student found in violation for the first time will be denied participation for 100% of the contests/events (season or tournaments), based on the number of regular season/scheduled events.
   - If the student elects to attend the Saturday Family Workshop offered through the Sixth District Compact, the Insight Program, or an approved program by the administration; and successfully completes the program, the student will be able to participate in 50% of their sports’/co-curricular season.

b. **Second Drug or Alcohol Offense**
   - A student found in violation for a second time will be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of the violation. In addition, the student will be required to have an assessment and complete the recommendations made by that assessment from an agency that has been approved by the administration.

c. **Third Drug or Alcohol Offense**
   - A student found in violation for the third time will be denied participation indefinitely.

**DRUG OR ALCOHOL SALE OR DISTRIBUTION**

Students shall not be involved in the sale or distribution of drugs and/or alcohol. This includes collecting money or facilitating the collection of money for the purpose of purchasing drugs or alcohol and bringing drugs or alcohol to a party.

a. **First Drug or Alcohol Sale or Distribution Offense**
   - A student found in violation will be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of violation. The student is required to attend the Insight Program, Saturday Family Workshop, or other approved program through the administration, and successfully complete the program. Failure to participate in or to not successfully complete one of the approved programs will result in a denial of participation determined by building principal.

b. **Second Drug or Alcohol Sale or Distribution Offense**
   - A student found in violation the second time will be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of the second violation.

c. **Third Drug or Alcohol Sale or Distribution Offense**
   - A student found in violation a third time will be denied participation permanently.
   - The administration has the authority to skip steps and invoke a more stringent penalty for continued violations of the TAOD policy in successive years.

**STEROIDS**

The improper use of anabolic steroids may cause serious or fatal health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, growth deformities, infertility, personality changes, server acne, and baldness. According to the Ohio Revised Code (section 3313.752 and 3707.50) possession, sale, or use of anabolic steroids without a valid prescription is a crime punishable by a fine and imprisonment. The school penalty for use of steroids would fall under the penalties for illegal drug usage.

The administration has the authority to skip steps and invoke a more stringent penalty for continued violations of the TAOD policy in successive years.
DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES
1. All students will receive notice of the rules under which they are operating. Upon receipt of the Code of Conduct the students, their parents or guardians, are responsible for reading and abiding by these rules and regulations.
2. Should a student be in violation of the Code of Conduct, their coaches / advisors, the athletic director, or building administrator will conduct an investigation and hearing based on the violation of the Code of Conduct. After this hearing, the appropriate coach / advisor, athletic director, or building administrator will inform the student of their disciplinary consequences as prescribed by the Code of Conduct.
3. The student or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the coach / advisor or the athletic director to the building principal. An appeal hearing will be scheduled in a timely manner after receiving notice of the appeal.
4. If a student and their parents or guardians wish to appeal the decision of the principal, they may do so to the school superintendent. A letter requesting an appeal must be submitted to the superintendent no later than three (3) days following the decision of the principal. A meeting will be scheduled in a timely manner.
5. The decision rendered by the superintendent is final.

SELF-REFERRAL
It is our goal as a school district is to work in conjunction with the student and his/her family. The following is an opportunity that might allow students/school personnel to work together in order to make the process of helping the student more effective.

Our greatest goal is to foster an open and honest relationship with students concerning the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. To encourage this, the Code of Conduct will follow these guidelines when dealing with self-referral situations:

1. If a student or his/her parent/guardian come forward with a violation of the TAOD policy to an administrator and asks for assistance concerning a violation of the policy (prior to any school or law official verifying or witnessing a violation of the TAOD) then there will be no denial of participation in the activity. The self-referral, however, is still considered a violation for the purpose of accumulation of violations.
2. Any student who confides in a teacher, advisor, coach, clergy or any other adult about a violation, prior to verification or witnessing by any school or law official, of the TAOD (exception of distribution) and that person informs an administrator then that student would follow the self-referral steps.
3. If the student violates the TAOD policy for a second time this will be considered a second offense to the TAOD policy, and they will serve the appropriate consequence.

ATTENDANCE
A student-athlete is required to attend all mandatory activities designated by the coach.

Consequences for the first unexcused absence:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
Maximum– sit out one contest.

Consequences for the second unexcused absence:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
Maximum– sit out two contests.

Consequences for the third and subsequent unexcused absence:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season
INSUBORDINATION

A student-athlete shall not refuse to comply with a reasonable request, order, or direction of any coach, administrator, or other authorized personnel.

Consequences:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

PROFANITY AND/OR VULGAR DISPLAYS

A student-athlete shall not use profane, obscene, or vulgar language. This includes gestures, either nonverbal or written.

Consequences:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion.
Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

BEHAVIOR UNBECOMING OF A WOODRIDGE STUDENT ATHLETE
(Including Unsportsmanlike Conduct or Ejection From a Contest or Event)

A student-athlete shall not act in a manner detrimental to the team, Woodridge High/Middle School, or Woodridge Local School District as a whole.

Consequences:
Minimum– athletic director and coach’s discretion
Maximum– removal from team for remainder of the season

HAZING

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student by other students is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means any intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) and the behavior causes mental or physical harm to other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it causes and intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for other student(s).

Incidents/reports of hazing shall be brought to the attention of school Administration. Each incident/report will be investigated and appropriate action will be taken.

The Administration will determine a course of action, which may include anything from a verbal warning to a permanent denial of participation depending on the offense.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying also means electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).
Ohio High School Athletic Association

Overview

Participating in your school’s interscholastic athletics program will provide some of your most memorable and enjoyable moments ever. Since your school is a member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, there are standards that must be met in order to be eligible to compete.

The essential eligibility requirements in this publication are only a summary of some of the regulations affecting student eligibility. OHSSA eligibility requirements are published in the OHSSA Handbook, which can be found in the offices of your principal and athletic administrator and is posted on the OHSSA website (www.ohssaa.org). Your school district also has the authority to establish additional eligibility standards, including academic and codes of student or athletic conduct.

Any questions you have concerning the OHSSA standards or your athletic eligibility should be reviewed with your school principal or athletic administrator. You should also meet with these administrators EVERY TIME before you change your course schedule or drop a course. If you are a transfer student, you must ensure that you and your school administrators have submitted all proper forms to the OHSSA Office in Columbus.

The eligibility regulations of the OHSSA have been adopted by the member schools and were accepted by your school when it became an OHSSA member. You are urged, as a student-athlete, to study these standards carefully since you are responsible for compliance with these standards.

Best wishes as you learn the valuable lessons that come with your participation in interscholastic athletics!

Student-athletes and parents have the opportunity to ask school administrators and/or coaches questions on OHSSA and school eligibility requirements, the school’s Athletic Code of Conduct policy and other issues during the OHSSA’s Pre-season Meetings that the OHSSA sends schools to hold no later than two weeks after the beginning of each sports season. Meetings should include showing a presentation prepared by the OHSSA that reviews key student eligibility issues, healthy lifestyles, sporting behavior and concussion management.

OHSSA Regulations On

Scholarship

In order to be eligible for the first grading period upon entrance into grade 9, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) of the classes in which you were enrolled in the immediately preceding grading period.

In order to maintain eligibility for grades 9–12, you must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period.

In addition:

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

OHSSA Regulations On

Semesters

After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, you are permitted only eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility.

* The semesters are taken in order of attendance once ninth-grade eligibility has been established.
* Semesters are counted toward eligibility whether you participate in interscholastic athletics or not.
* There are exceptions to this regulation, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review these exceptions.
OHSAA Regulations On Age

When a high school student (grades 9-12) turns 20 years of age, he/she becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletics.
- There is an exception to this regulation, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review this exception.

OHSAA Regulations On Residence

If one or more parent(s) or legal guardian(s) live outside of Ohio, you are ineligible unless one of the exceptions to the residence regulation applies. These exceptions to the out-of-state residency rules are found in Bylaw 4-6.

OHSAA Regulations On Non-Enrolled Students

Legislation now permits non-enrolled students (home educated, non-public, community school, STEM students) to have participation opportunities at the public high school that the student would be entitled to attend under the tuition statute, i.e., the school located in the parents' residential district. If you are participating via this legislation, note that the language says you shall be given the "same opportunities" to participate — not greater opportunities — and that you must meet the same eligibility requirements as other students. In addition, once you establish eligibility at a high school, a transfer to a different high school may mean you will lose eligibility for interscholastic athletics for a period of time at your new school.

For more information on participation opportunities for non-enrolled students, go to the Eligibility section of the OHSAA website (www.ohsaa.org).

OHSAA Regulations On Transfers

Once your eligibility is established at a high school, a transfer to a different high school may mean you will lose eligibility for interscholastic athletics for a period of time at your new school. For the specifics on the period of ineligibility, visit www.ohsaa.org.
- If you are new to this school as a transfer student, all required paperwork must be submitted to the OHSAA by your school administrator, and, depending on your situation, the state office may have to grant approval for eligibility. Immediate eligibility will be granted only if one of the exceptions to the OHSAA transfer regulation has been met or you have not participated in the sport within the past 12 months.
- To see if you qualify for an exception or you have other questions on these regulations, arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator. If questions remain, ask them to contact the OHSAA.

OHSAA Regulations On Awards

You may receive awards valued at $400 or less as a result of athletic participation in interscholastic athletics from any source. You may never accept cash awards, however.

OHSAA Regulations On Amateurism

You will lose your amateur status and forfeit your eligibility if you:
- Compete for money or other compensation.
- Capitalize on your athletic fame by receiving money, merchandise, or services.
- Sign a contract or make a commitment to play professional athletics.
- Receive services or merchandise or any form of financial assistance from a professional sports organization.
- Compete with a professional sports team even if no pay is received.
- Enter into an agreement with a sports or marketing agent.

Expenses for travel, meals and lodging may be accepted provided they are available to all participants and they are not contingent upon your team's and/or your finish. A form to record this information is available at www.ohsaa.org that must be submitted to the OHSAA.

OHSAA Regulations On False Information

If you compete under a name other than your own or provide a false address, you may immediately become ineligible.

OHSAA Regulations On Open Gyms

School officials may designate open gyms/facilities, the sport to be played, the grade levels involved and may also limit participation to those from your school. You may participate in open gyms/facilities, but remember:
- No one from the respective school may be excluded from participating;
- No one may be required to attend;
- No school officials may invite selected students or determine the teams;
- No school officials may transport students to or from either school or non-school facilities;
- No timing or written scoring may be kept, and
- No coaching or instruction may be provided.

The OHSAA may impose penalties against you, your school and/or your coach for violating these regulations.
There are restrictions on the instruction you can receive from school coaches outside of your season. Some of these regulations are different for team sports vs. individual sports. Before receiving instruction outside the season from your school coaches, visit www.ohsaa.org, go to the General Sports Regulations and review the section on Individual Skill Instruction to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:
- Besides during the season of your sport, school coaches may also provide team instruction for a maximum of 10 days between June 1 and July 31. This would include such activities as soccer, basketball, ice hockey, lacrosse, baseball or softball teams competing in tournaments or shootouts; football teams participating in 7-on-7’s, or coaches conducting or taking teams to instructional camps.
- Between August 1 and May 31 and outside defined “no contact periods,” school coaches may also provide individual instruction outside the season of play. There are restrictions for team sports and some individual sports, so review the OHSAA’s Individual Skill Instruction regulations to ensure all standards are being followed.
- Individual skill instruction from non-school coaches may be received in any sport by a squad member at any time in individual or group lessons provided that this instruction does not violate any Board of Education, school administrators’ or coaches’ policies.
- It is a violation if a coach suggests your participation in instructional programs is mandatory.

If you compete on a non-school team or in non-school competition as an individual in the same sport during your school team’s season (example: non-school soccer during the school’s soccer season), you will lose eligibility. There are also certain restrictions regarding tryouts, practices and competitions with non-school teams before, during and after the school season. Before participating with a non-school team, visit www.ohsaa.org, go to the General Sports Regulations and review the sections on Non-School Programs/Teams to ensure all regulations are being followed. Some other key notes on these regulations:
- A member of an interscholastic squad in a team sport (baseball, basketball, football, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball) may not participate in an athletic contest, tryouts or any type of team or group training or practices on or with a non-school squad in the same sport during the school’s interscholastic season. **This would include college teams and/or college tryouts.**
- In the individual sports of bowling, cross country, golf, gymnastics, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field and wrestling, however, you may practice and try out for a non-school team but may not compete in a contest during your school season.

There is no limit on the number of students from each school that may participate on the same non-school team from June 1 to July 31. Check the OHSAA Sport-by-Sport Regulations (available at www.ohsaa.org) for the date you must cease participation on non-school teams in order to be eligible for OHSAA tournament competition along with penalties for non-compliance with this date.

The OHSAA does not permit the use of any form of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs at the site of any interscholastic contests. Besides the health risks, use of any of these items will result in you being disqualified from contests and likely facing additional school and local penalties. There are additional issues related to illicit drugs, such as anabolic steroids and some prescription drugs, which are restricted. If you use anabolic steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs, you are ineligible for inter-
scholastic competition until medical evidence indicates that your system is free of these drugs.

Another prominent issue is the use of supplements. The increased availability of these items allows student-athletes access to a wide variety of products aggressively marketed in fitness and strength training magazines and websites. Often their marketing campaigns include promises, endorsed by faulty research claims, of extraordinary weight loss, explosive power or tremendous strength gains. It is important for coaches, athletic administrators and parents to educate themselves about what substances your student-athletes may be using and about the potential risks involved with uneducated supplement use.

The OHSAA website, www.ohsaa.org, offers a wealth of information for parents, coaches and students about these topics and other healthy lifestyles/sports medicine issues.

### OHSAA Regulations and Expectations On Preparticipation Evaluations and Consent Forms

Before the season’s first practice, each student must have had a physical examination within the past year and an examination form signed by a medical examiner must be on file at your school. Ask your athletic administrator or licensed athletic trainer about the new electronic preparticipation evaluation, the PrivIT Profile, that the OHSAA has launched.

- Physical examinations are valid for one year from the date of the exam except for those that take place from May 1-June 1. Those exams are valid for one year plus through the end of the next school year’s spring sports season.

In addition, no student will be eligible unless that student and his or her parents have signed the OHSAA Authorization Form and the OHSAA Eligibility & Authorization Statement, both of which must be on file at your school.

### OHSAA Regulations and Expectations On Concussion Management

It is everyone’s responsibility to take the necessary precautions to reduce the likelihood of brain injuries. This is not just a problem in football... concussions can happen in just about any sport!

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that interferes with normal function of the brain. “Dings” and “bell ringers” are serious brain injuries, and you do not have to have loss of consciousness for it to be considered serious. Young athletes are at increased risk for serious problems.

In Ohio, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems, shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play that same day. Thereafter, the student shall not return to practice or competition until cleared with written authorization from a physician or health care provider approved by the local board in accordance with state law.

Each school is required to review its concussion management protocol with students and their parents. In addition, each student and his or her parents must review and sign the Ohio Department of Health’s “Concussion Information Sheet” prior to participation and are highly encouraged to review a short presentation on concussions available at no cost at www.nfhslearn.com.

### OHSAA Regulations and Expectations On Sporting Behavior

The OHSAA’s vision for positive sporting behavior is built on expectations. It calls on the school community — administrators, teachers, coaches, students, parents and fans — to strive for positive sporting behavior in everything they do by teaching the value of ethics, integrity, equity, fairness and respect.

As a student-athlete, you are expected to accept the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community while participating in school sports. You are expected to:

- Treat opponents, coaches and officials with respect, and
- Ensure your actions do not incite fans or other participants or attempt to embarrass, ridicule or demean others.

The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected for unsporting behavior or flagrant fouls. If you are ejected:

- You will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day, and
- You will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

If you are ejected a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, stiffer penalties, including a maximum penalty of suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

As a participant in school sports, you are expected to act with dignity, speak with courtesy and play with pride. In short, Respect The Game!

**Note:** The complete OHSAA ejection policy for unsporting behavior can be found in the OHSAA Handbook and is posted at www.ohsaa.org.
Interscholastic Athletics

Why We Play The Games

For many of you, playing on your school teams may be the last time you will participate in competitive athletics. As a participant, you should work hard, have fun and strive to be the best. But just as important, you should also strive to be the best students, teammates and members of your community in preparation for the next phase of your life as a responsible adult and productive citizen.

The purpose of interscholastic athletics is to enrich your high school experience; promote citizenship and sportsmanship; instill a sense of pride in community; teach lifelong lessons of teamwork and self-discipline, and help you grow physically and emotionally. In short, interscholastic athletic programs are educational in nature and therefore complement a student's school experience.

Other sporting organizations promote free player movement, are primarily designed to promote athletic development of the individual, and provide a showcase for the athletic talents of those individuals. However, these organizations do not share the primary educational purposes of OHSAA member schools and therefore cannot provide the unique type of competition created by the OHSAA through our member schools.

Statistics show that students who participate in interscholastic athletics programs tend to have higher grade-point averages, better attendance records, lower dropout rates and fewer discipline problems than the general student population. Statistics also show that only one percent of all high school participants will earn a Division 1 college athletic scholarship and approximately five percent will play collegiately in any division. Unlike major colleges and professional sports teams, interscholastic athletic programs do not exist to entertain spectators.

As your parents can attest, high school goes by in a blur, but your memories of participating in school sports will stay with you for a lifetime. The OHSAA wants to make sure your time as a high school student-athlete is meaningful and memorable.

The privilege of participating in educational athletics is one of the most exciting experiences of your life. Please maintain the proper perspective in this journey and remember why we play the games.

A Look At The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Participating in your school's interscholastic athletics program is not only a privilege, but also provides memorable experiences. The role of the OHSAA is to:

- Help ensure students are provided a positive environment for athletic participation;
- Ensure all rules, regulations and decisions are fair and equitable for all schools and participants;
- Ensure athletes play under safe conditions, and
- Ensure school sports programs remain a vital part of your educational experience.

Like the other 825 public and non-public high schools and approximately 800 7th and 8th grade schools, your school has volunteered to become a member of the OHSAA. Ohio is one of the top ranked states in the country in regards to participation with over 350,000 high school students competing in 26 sanctioned sports.

The OHSAA Commissioner and his staff are based in Columbus and their primary responsibilities are to:

- Interpret the rules and regulations for member schools;
- Conduct tournaments for high schools including sectionals, districts, regionals and state tournaments, and
- Serve as educators for officials, coaches, administrators and student-athletes and their parents.

As a member of the OHSAA, administrators and coaches annually affirm they will follow the OHSAA regulations that are approved by the membership. Any changes to those regulations must be approved by a majority vote of member school principals.

The OHSAA does not charge schools any membership fees or tournament entry fees. Schools are provided rulebooks, educational materials and other printed items along with catastrophe insurance coverage for all participants at a cost of approximately $600,000 annually. Additionally, schools are reimbursed for many of their tournament expenses and have the opportunity to keep a portion of receipts from the sale of tournament tickets.

Other key programs and initiatives of the OHSAA include:

- Providing annual scholarships totaling over $100,000 to students who excel in athletics and academics;
- Licensing, registering and training nearly 17,000 contest officials, and
- Ensuring coaches are certified to work with student-athletes through an on-going coach education program.
Sportsmanship Philosophy and Guidelines

The Woodridge Athletic Department believes that interscholastic competition involving member schools of the Ohio High School Athletic Association should be governed by the basic principles of good sportsmanship. This document has been prepared to insure that all participants have a common understanding of those basic principles.

Woodridge Local School District believes that students should be coached to play to the best of their ability and to understand that to play well is to play honorably. The promotion of sportsmanship is the obligation of all school personnel (principals, athletic directors and coaches) and is directed to the behavior of spectators, coaches and players.

An additional component to consider is coaches’ ethics. Woodridge Local School District believes the development of good sportsmanship through the practice of ethical behavior and moral reasoning is one of the acknowledged objectives of interscholastic athletics. Woodridge Local School District, therefore, expects school administrators, coaches, athletes, and spectators to know and embrace the following fundamentals of sportsmanship.

Respect should be demonstrated for an athletic opponent and for their school at all times. Woodridge should treat visiting teams and their supporters as guests and accord them the consideration all human beings deserve. Visiting schools should respect the property and dignity of their host school and its athletic teams.

Knowledge of and a proper respect for the current rules of the contest should guide the behavior of all participants. Rules are essential for a fair contest. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the “letter” of the rules.

All participants should strive to maintain self-control at all times. The desire to win should not be accepted as a reason for abandoning rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained by all if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized.

All participants should learn to recognize and appreciate skill in performance regardless of affiliation. Recognition of the good performance of an opponent is a demonstration of generosity and good will that is encouraged in all member schools. In order for good sportsmanship to prevail, it is essential that all participants understand their individual responsibilities and expected modes of behavior before, during and after contests.

Player Expectations

Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of the community in general both at athletic contests and other various events throughout the community. It is important that players:

1. Treat opponents with the respect that is due them as guests and as fellow human beings.
2. Shake hands with opponents and wish them a good game when appropriate.
3. Exercise self-control at all times, accepting the judgment of the officials as the best judgment they could make given what they know and see. Never argue or make gestures indicating lack of respect for the officials’ judgment.
4. Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion.
5. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
6. Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community.
Player Ejection from a Contest

Any student-athlete ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, the student-athlete shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. A student-athlete under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s).

A student-athlete who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student-athlete who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in the season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the Commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student-athlete participates.

All student-athletes participating in the athletic program at Woodridge will be held accountable to the OHSAA player ejection rule.

Unsporting Player Behavior with Fans

No member of any school-sponsored interscholastic athletics squad shall leave the ‘playing area in which a contest is being conducted and enter the spectator area of the facility to engage in any type of conflict—verbal or physical. If a student-athlete leaves the ‘playing area’ and enters the spectator area of a facility to so engage a person, the minimum penalties shall be:

1. The student-athletes privileges to participate in interscholastic athletics shall be revoked and the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school-year.
2. The school shall be immediately placed on probation pending an investigation (and report) into what happened, what caused it to happen, what was done by the school to diffuse what happened and what safeguards have been implemented by the school to prevent further happenings.

Inappropriate Participant Behaviors

Participants (players and cheerleaders) should avoid the following inappropriate behavior:

1. Taunting officials, opponents or spectators.
2. Violation of bench rule: If an athlete leaves the bench area and is involved in an altercation on the playing field/area, it is strongly recommended that the athlete be suspended for two contests. The suspension should include non-conference and tournament games and should carry over into the next sports season if it occurs at the end of a sports season.
3. Ejection from contest.
4. Use of profanity.
5. Damage/destruction of school property.
6. Theft of school or personal property.
Social Media Responsibility

Sportsmanship extends to the social media environment as well. Students, coaches, and fans should not engage in derogatory exchanges over the Internet, text messages, or other avenues. Such actions are strictly prohibited and will be treated in the same way as unsportsmanlike behavior at an athletic contest.

Guidelines/Policies for Student Athletes

Playing and competing as a Woodridge HS and MS student athlete is a privilege. Student-athletes at Woodridge are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray your team, your School and yourselves in a positive manner at all times. Sometimes this means doing things that are an inconvenience to you, but benefit the whole team.

Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites have increased in popularity globally, and are used by the majority of student athletes here at Woodridge in one form or another. Student athletes should be aware that third parties -- including the media, faculty, future employers and OHSAA officials -- could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posters. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete, the athletic department and the School District. This can also be detrimental to a student-athlete’s future enlistment, collegiate enrollment and employment options.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco e.g., no holding cups, cans, shot glasses etc.
- Photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug-related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another institution; taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another institution and derogatory comments against race and/or gender). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, illegal drug use).
- Content online that would constitute a violation of Woodridge Local Schools rules.

If a student athlete’s actions on social media are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the previously stated behaviors, he/she may be subject to the following penalties:

1. Written warning
2. A meeting with Director of Athletics and/or Head Coach
3. Penalties as determined by the athletic department, including but not limited to possible suspension and/or removal from his/her athletic team.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social media websites:

- Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.
- You should not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s), or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
- Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site – many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes or to seek connection with student-athletes.
- Consider how the above behaviors can be reflected in all Facebook applications.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as the Woodridge Athletic Department’s and the School District’s. Remember, always present a positive image and don’t do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or the School District.
Spectator Expectations

Partisan spectators by their behaviors and reactions determine to a large extent the reputation for sportsmanship of their school. Spectators should be reminded and should keep in mind that athletes are friendly rivals as members of opposing amateur teams. They are expected to be treated as such. Spectators should be reminded too, that the contest should be between the teams engaged in the competition and not between their supporters. It is important that all spectators:

1. Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship.
2. Respect, cooperate, and respond enthusiastically to the cheerleaders, coaches, and student-athletes of all teams.
3. Censure fellow spectators whose behavior is unacceptable.
4. Be positive toward players and coaches regardless of the outcome of the contest.
5. Respect the judgment and the professionalism of the officials and coaches.

Spectator inappropriate behavior:
1. Verbal/physical abuse of officials.
2. Berating players, coaches or other spectators through: chants, signs, cheers, and profanity.
3. Publically berating school officials within a contest environment.

Unacceptable interruptions of a contest:
1. Throwing objects on playing area.
2. Entering playing area.
3. Disruptive behavior.

Extra-Curricular Activity Spectator Code of Conduct

Woodridge Local School District promotes interscholastic events and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship and courtesy are an essential part of any athletic competition or extra curricular event and is expected from athletes, coaches, officials and all spectators in attendance. As a fan/spectator (student or adult) of Woodridge Local School District, you are to be an example of positive encouragement while supporting our students, athletes, coaches and officials. Our behavior should be positive, respectful and encouraging of all involved in the extra curricular event taking place.

Failure to be an example of these practices and/or ejection from an athletic contest or any other extracurricular event will result in the following procedures to be taken:

First Offense – The spectator will schedule a meeting with either the Principal or athletic director with resulting action that may include removal from the next two home athletic contests of the same sport or future extra curricular events related to the ejection. A letter will be sent by the Principal and/or Athletic Director to the spectator in question notifying them of the ejection and the possible future dates of ejection.

Second Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the season of the infraction. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Principal notifying the spectator of the remainder of the season ejection.

Third Offense – The spectator will be removed from all home Woodridge Local School District athletic contests and other school events and activities for the remainder of the school year. A letter of ejection will be sent from the office of the Superintendent notifying the spectator of the ejection.

Any athletic official, including but not limited to, contest officials, athletic director, principal, assistant principals, game site supervisors and anyone else in an administrative role on the site, may uphold enforcement of an ejection.

School/District Administrators reserve the right to enact harsher penalties if it is felt the spectator’s actions warrant them to do so and/or if the spectator in question has exhibited a pattern of disruptive behavior in the past.

While the Code of Conduct encompasses behavior expectations and consequences for both student and adult spectators, Woodridge Local School’s administrators may apply further consequences to a student ejected from a contest due to the student violating the Student Conduct Code.
Respect the Game

The Parents Role in Interscholastic Athletics

"A student's success or lack of success in sports does not indicate what kind of parent you are...But having a student athlete that is coachable, respectful, a great teammate, mentally tough, resilient and who tries their best is a direct reflection of parenting."

♦ Get to know the coaches. Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your student-athlete under his or her leadership.
♦ Interscholastic athletics provide learning experiences for students, and unfortunately, sometimes mistakes are made. Just as you would praise a student's effort in the classroom, remember to praise your student-athlete in their attempt to improve academically, athletically, and as a person.
♦ Remember, the reason you attend athletic contests is to support and cheer for your student's team as well as to enjoy the display of skill and competition. Your role is not to intimidate the other team and its fans.
♦ A ticket to an interscholastic athletic event allows you the privilege to observe the contest, not a license to be obnoxious and/or verbally abusive to others.
♦ Show respect for opposing players, coaches, fans and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your home.
♦ Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to opponents. Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved. Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding play by either team.
♦ Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations are happening.
♦ Respect the integrity and judgment of the game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to call a fair contest.
♦ Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censuring inappropriate or unbecoming behavior of those around you at events.

Communication with your Student-Athlete

► Try your best to be completely objective about your student’s athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and skill level.
► Make sure your student-athlete knows that whether they play well or make mistakes, win or lose, you love them, appreciate their efforts and are not in any way disappointed in them.
► Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to try their hardest and to work to continuously improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop a healthy and balanced perspective toward competing and having fun.
► Be helpful, but do not coach your student-athlete. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for your student to be overwhelmed with advice and critical information.
► Do not compete with the coach. If your student-athlete is receiving mixed messages from two different authority figures, he/she will likely become disenchanted.
► Try not to relive your athletic career through your student-athlete in such a way that creates pressure for your child.
► Do not compare the skill, courage or attitude of your student-athlete with other members of the team or siblings.
Respect the Game

Sportsmanlike Behavior

- Remember that young people play sports for their enjoyment, not to entertain you.
- Respect and show appreciation for the coaches, and understand that they have given their time to provide sport activities for our young people.
- Show respect for our opponents, and realize there would be no game without them.
- Do not have unrealistic expectations, and understand that doing one’s best is as important as winning. Know that ridiculing a student-athlete for making a mistake is not acceptable behavior.
- Encourage student-athletes and coaches to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Respect the official’s decisions, and encourage all participants to do the same.
- Do not use bad language or harass student-athletes, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- Always show good sportsmanship since young people learn best by example.

Communicating with the Coach

Communication Parents Should Expect From the Coach

- Coach’s philosophy pertaining to the team and sport.
- Expectations the coach has for your student-athlete as well as all players on the team.
- Time and location for all practices and contests.
- Requirements such as special equipment needed and voluntary off-season conditioning expectations.
- Procedures for reporting injuries and illnesses.
- Expectations and rule infractions that may result in disciplinary action or denial of participation for your student-athlete.

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

- History of injuries or illnesses and/or special concerns for the student-athlete.
- Information pertaining to your student-athlete that would help the coach be more effective in communicating with the him/her.
- Notification well in advance of any schedule conflicts.
- Specific concerns in regard to the coach’s philosophy and expectations.

Procedures for Discussing Concerns with Coaches

► Contact the coach to schedule an appointment to discuss your concerns. Meetings with parents will not take place before or after a contest or during practice time.
► Meetings will be attended by the parent, student-athlete, head coach and assistant coach.
► Parents and student-athletes will express their concerns and raise questions as needed. Other players on the team will not be discussed.
► Coaches will attempt to answer all questions in an honest and forthright manner. This may include a discussion of a student-athlete’s strengths and weaknesses as well as their perceived role on the team.

*** If a meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, consider scheduling an appointment with the athletic director for further discussion.
Respect the Game

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

♦ Treatment of your student-athlete.
♦ Ways to help your student-athlete improve and develop.
♦ Concerns about your student-athlete’s behavior and/or academic accomplishments.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

♦ Your student-athlete’s playing time.
♦ Specific offense, defense or team strategy.
♦ Coach’s play calling or game strategy.
♦ Player combinations, positioning or other student-athletes.

Because of the emotion exhibited by all parties, confronting a coach before or after a practice or game does not promote resolution of a problem!

The Student-Athlete and Transferring Sports

Student-athletes may not transfer from one sport to another after the first scheduled scrimmage or contest. A student-athlete who withdraws from a sport may not join another sport until the season in which he/she withdrew is completed. A student-athlete who withdraws from a sport may not begin conditioning or “open gym or open facilities” for a sport in the up-coming season without permission from the head coach of the sport the student-athlete withdrew from or until the current sport’s season ends.

Conflicts in Co-Curricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many co-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of co-curricular activities; and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in activities in which they can commit fully. This is only fair to other members of the sport/activity. If there are continuous conflicts between multiple school activities, students will have to chose one commitment at that time.
Financial Obligations and Equipment

Uniforms — In some sports, the athlete will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become their property. When a uniform is issued to a student-athlete, it is expected to be returned in the same shape when issued, barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Equipment — All athletes are responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to them.

1. All equipment issued to a player is to be worn only at practice or scheduled games or scrimmages involving that particular sport. Exceptions must be approved by the coach (i.e. jerseys).

2. Before any item is attached to, added to, removed from, or worn with a uniform that is issued to an athlete for a specific sport, the athlete must secure permission from the coach.

3. Each athlete is responsible for all equipment issued. Keep it clean and in the best possible condition. Woodridge Local School is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment.

4. Athletes are required to use a lock on athletic lockers to avoid theft.

5. All athletic equipment is the property of the Board of Education and the Athletic Department, therefore, school equipment may not be taken from the school building for the use of any other organization or for personal use. Any exception must be approved by the athletic director.

6. All equipment issued to an athlete must be returned at the end of the school season. Equipment that is not returned for any reason or is damaged beyond normal wear and tear must be paid for at REPLACEMENT cost.

7. Equipment is to be returned or lost equipment paid for within one week of the last contest of the sport. Any athlete who has not returned or paid for lost equipment within one week may be denied the right to participate in athletics until the equipment is returned or paid for.

Miscellaneous Expenses— It is entirely possible that expenses will arise outside of the participation fees in some activities and sports. When possible, the athletic department will attempt to cover as much of the cost as possible. In cases where the cost is not covered, students are responsible to cover these costs. Coaches will keep in mind the financial burden on families and will do everything possible to fund raise effectively to combat these costs. Coaches will also do their best to avoid extra costs which are unnecessary to the ultimate goal of the activity or sport in question.

Sports Awards Ceremonies

Sports awards ceremonies will be held at the conclusion of each sports’ season. Student-athletes are expected to attend the awards program to receive the awards they have earned. If the student-athlete is unable to attend the awards program, the head coach must be notified before the awards program or the student-athlete risks forfeiture of earned awards.

Awards Criteria

The following awards are given out to student athletes who meet the qualifications specified by each sport’s coach. Please note that coaches also reserve the right to give out additional awards based on their discretion.

Freshmen Numerals: The student athlete was an active and contributing member on a WHS freshmen team for the 1st time.

Freshmen Certificate: The student athlete was an active and contributing member on a WHS freshmen team in an additional sport.

Junior Varsity Award: The student athlete was an active and regular participant on a WHS Junior Varsity team.
Awards Criteria (Continued)

**Varsity Letter:** The student athlete is recognized as an active and regular participant on their respective varsity team. This determination is made by students meeting all requirements set forth by the sports’ coach to receive a varsity letter. The varsity letter is received the first time a student earns varsity status in any sport at WHS.

**Varsity Insert:** This award is given when student athlete has received varsity status in a sport previously and then earns varsity status in an additional sport for the 1st time (i.e. a student receives their letter in football for earning varsity status the first time, and then letters in basketball for the 1st time. Insert received for basketball).

**Second, Third, and Fourth Year Varsity Awards:** These awards are received when a student earns varsity status in the SAME sport, for numerous years in their HS career (i.e. a student will earn a Third Year Varsity Award in the sports of Basketball if they earn varsity status 3 times during their HS career).

**Guidelines for Cutting to a Determined Number of Participants**

The athletic department reserves the right to determine, on a per sport basis, whether or not a team will cap or cut rosters to a certain number of student-athletes. In cutting situations, the head coach will hold a pre-season meeting with student-athletes trying out for the sport to explain the criteria used to cut a squad. Evaluation procedures and general tryout information will be explained and questions pertaining to tryouts will be answered.

A conference will be held with a student-athlete cut from the squad. During the conference, the coach will explain the reasons why the student-athlete did not make the team and suggest possible alternatives for improving skills, therefore, enhancing the student-athlete’s opportunity for making the team in the future.

The coaching staff will participate in the evaluation of each student-athlete in a given sport in a fair and equitable manner. The head coach will be responsible for making the final decision with respect to the varsity squad of his/her team.

Tryouts will be a minimum of three (3) practices/clinics/workouts in length before cuts are made to ensure adequate time to evaluate candidates.

Every attempt will be made to give each student-athlete the same amount of time to demonstrate skills.

**Participation on Junior Varsity and Freshmen Teams**

The purpose for offering a junior varsity (JV) or freshmen team/schedule is to allow younger, inexperienced members of a given sport the opportunity to participate and gain experience to prepare them for Varsity level competition.

In sports and activities in which rosters are restricted by a tryout procedure, Seniors (12th grade) will not be permitted to participate on a Junior Varsity team.

In sports and activities in which rosters are NOT restricted by a tryout procedure, Seniors (12th grade) may be afforded the opportunity to be members of a Junior Varsity team if the Coach and Athletic Director feel that it is in the best interest and safety of all of the students involved.

The intent of allowing Seniors (12th grade) to compete on the JV team is to afford them the opportunity to continue their career. It is NOT intended to take significant playing time from younger players nor should seniors be included on the JV team in order to make the team stronger.
**Student-Athlete Vacation Policy**

Vacations by athletic team members during the sport season are discouraged. When an absence due to a vacation is unavoidable, a student-athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents/guardians/custodians while on vacation
2. Contact the head coach prior to the vacation
3. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on the team as a starter or substitute player, including, but not limited to a reduction in playing time.
4. Student-athletes missing mandatory contests during a scheduled family vacation will sit out a certain number of contests, discernable by the Head Coach and Assistant Coaches in a given sport.

**Away Events and Student-Athlete Transportation**

Student-athletes are expected to travel to and from away practices, scrimmages, and contests on transportation provided by Woodridge Local School District. In the event of extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be granted by the athletic director or head coach if the student-athlete provides notification through a written request signed by the parent or guardian the day prior to the scheduled away event.

If the request is honored, a student-athlete will be permitted to travel with his/her parent or guardian only.

**Bench, Team Area and Locker Room Restrictions**

The bench or team area and locker room of each sport is restricted to the student-athletes listed on the OHSAA eligibility form for the sport, coaches, volunteer coaches, managers, athletic trainers, paramedics, physicians, team videographers or other personnel approved by the athletic director or coach. Students, parents and fans are expected to remain in designated spectator areas or seated in the bleachers.

**Sunday/Holiday Activities and Length of Activities**

Woodridge Local School District believes that strong co-curricular activities and athletics are essential if a well-rounded education is to be made available to students. However, these programs must be kept in perspective. Academics must continue to be the top priority of the school. Also, time needs to be set aside for family activities. With these thoughts in the mind, a general guideline is that Woodridge will not sanction activities and/or team practices on Sundays. Sunday is a day of rest and family relationships.

Similar regulations will be set for activities and practices on Nationally Recognized Holidays. If there is a special circumstance in which a team is entered into a holiday tournament or other unforeseen circumstances arise, the regulation may be waived with permission from the Athletic Director.

If a team decides to hold workouts or practices on a Holiday, permission will be granted through the athletic office. If permission is granted, it will be voluntary to attend and absence from the session will not penalize the student athlete.

Should unforeseen circumstances and/or emergencies arise which require a Sunday activity, prior permission to hold the athletic activity must be obtained from the athletic director.

Also, because of the necessity to provide a reasonable amount of time for the homework assignments and study, a general guideline is that practice sessions should not exceed two and one half-hours.
Definition and Scope of Athletic Training:

As used in sections 4755.60 to 4755.65 and 4755.99 of the Revised Code:

(A) "Athletic training" means the practice of prevention, recognition, and assessment of an athletic injury and the complete management, treatment, disposition, and reconditioning of acute athletic injuries upon the referral of an individual authorized under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatry, a dentist licensed under Chapter 4715. of the Revised Code, a physical therapist licensed under this chapter, or a chiropractor licensed under Chapter 4734. of the Revised Code. Athletic training includes the administration of topical drugs that have been prescribed by a licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs, as defined in section 4729.01 of the Revised Code. Athletic training also includes the organization and administration of educational programs and athletic facilities, and the education of and consulting with the public as it pertains to athletic training.

Athletic Trainers (ATs) are health care professionals who collaborate with physicians. The services provided by ATs comprise prevention, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. ATs work under the direction of physicians, as prescribed by state licensure statutes and are highly qualified, multi-skilled health care professionals themselves. ATs are under the allied health professions category as defined by Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Athletic trainers are assigned National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers, and the taxonomy code for athletic trainers is 2255A2300X. Athletic trainers are listed in the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the “professional and related occupations” section. They are mid-level health care professionals.

Athletic Training Services:

Woodridge Local School District contracts with an outside organization to provide Athletic Training Services to the student athletes within our district. The main responsibility of the AT is to cover Varsity Athletic contests, practices, etc. When available, Junior Varsity, Freshmen and Middle School contests and practices will also be covered.

The AT will be available to all athletes of all levels (grades 7-12) for injury prevention treatment, evaluations, follow ups, and return to play information. Student Athletes and coaches should keep in constant contact with the AT to schedule these appointments/sessions so that the injured individual can be safely returned to athletic competition in an efficient manner.

Return to Play Decisions (Non Concussion):

As the Woodridge Board of Education’s approved athletic health care professional, the AT assigned to Woodridge High School will have the ultimate decision, under the supervision of a Physician, to return student athletes to athletic practice and competition. Family Physician and Specialist notes will need to be approved by the AT or team physician prior to a student athlete returning to athletic competition.
Athletic Health Care Information (Continued)

The Student-Athlete and Concussions

It is important for all individuals involved in interscholastic athletics to recognize the potential for catastrophic injury and even death from concussions. Thus it is extremely important that each coach, administrator, contest official and medical support personnel review their responsibilities in protecting students. Further both students and parents have responsibilities in this area as well.

In January 2011, the OHSAA Board of Directors adopted a sports regulation which incorporated the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) playing rules related to concussion recognition and management. On April 26, 2013, legislation adopted by Ohio’s General Assembly on concussion and head injuries in youth sports became effective. On February 14, 2013, the OHSAA Board of Directors mandated that these regulations become effective on April 26, 2013 for the remainder of the spring sports season and thereafter. This OHSAA regulation, as amended to incorporate this recent legislation, now reads:

- Any student, while practicing for or competing in an interscholastic contest, who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest by either of the following:
  
  1. The individual who is serving as the student’s coach during that practice or competition.
  2. An individual who is serving as a contest official or referee during that practice or competition.

RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL (Concussions)

If a student is removed from practice or competition due to a suspected concussion or head injury, the coach or referee who removes the student shall not permit the student, ON THE SAME DAY THE STUDENT IS REMOVED, to return to that practice or competition or to participate in any other practice or competition for which the coach or contest official is responsible. Thereafter, which means no earlier than the next day, the coach or contest officials shall not permit the student to return to practice or competition until both of the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The student’s condition is assessed by either of the following:
   
   A. A physician, who is a person authorized under Chapter 4731 of the Ohio Revised Code (OCR) to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine or surgery (M.D. or D.O.)
   
   B. Any other licensed health care provider that the school district Board of Education or other governing authority of a chartered or non-chartered nonpublic school, authorizes to assess the student who has been removed from practice or competition.

2. The student receives written authorization that it is safe for the student to return to practice or competition from a physician or other licensed health care provider authorized to grant the clearance. Visit the following link: [http://ohsaa.org/medicine/AuthorizationToReenter.pdf](http://ohsaa.org/medicine/AuthorizationToReenter.pdf) to retrieve the OHSAA’s Medical Authorization to Return To Play (RTP) form.

Concussion Information Sheet

All students and their parents or legal guardians shall review and sign the “Concussion Information Sheet” which has been developed by the Ohio Department of Health and which shall be distributed by OHSAA member schools to all students and their parents prior to each sports season. Students and parents shall review and sign this form each school year and should keep a copy of the form. In addition, parents and students are encouraged to complete an approved concussion education course. The Concussion Information Sheet can be found here: [http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Interscholastic%20Concussion%20Form%20-%20ODH%20Revised%202.ashx](http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Interscholastic%20Concussion%20Form%20-%20ODH%20Revised%202.ashx)
Return to Play Decisions (Non Concussion):

As the Woodridge Board of Education’s approved athletic health care professional, the AT assigned to Woodridge High School will have the ultimate decision, under the supervision of a Physician or team of Physicians, to return student athletes to athletic participation. Family Physician and Specialist notes outside of this Athletic Health Care team will need to be approved by the AT and/or team physician(s) prior to a student athlete returning to athletic participation.

It is important to remember that any athletic trainer (AT) who clears an athlete to return to participation does so within the parameters of his /her standard operating procedures developed between the athletic trainer and team Physician/ physician medical director and is not making return-to-play decisions outside of the State of Ohio Athletic Training Practice Act.

“Athletic injury” means any injury sustained by an individual that affects the individual's participation or performance in sports, games, recreation, exercise, or other activity that requires physical strength, agility, flexibility, speed, stamina, or range of motion.

“Referral” is defined as a written referral from the following individuals:

(A) An individual licensed under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery
(B) An individual licensed under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery;
(C) An individual licensed under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice podiatric medicine and surgery
(D) A dentist licensed under Chapter 4715. of the Revised Code.
(E) A physical therapist licensed under Chapter 4755. of the Revised Code; or
(F) A chiropractor licensed under Chapter 4734. of the Revised Code.

Referral Explanation:

Referrals from any of these healthcare professionals must be according to that profession’s Practice Act and the law must allow them to delegate such responsibilities. Therefore, an AT may make return to play decisions pertaining to concussions, and other injuries, upon referral of a Physician. Referrals may be made through a prescription written for the individual athlete, through direct communications with the referring physician, or through Standard Operating Procedures signed by the Physician Athletic Health Care Team.

*Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)*- A protocol set forth by team physicians and athletic trainers for treatment or various injuries prior to evaluation by a physician. Such procedures should be followed as outlined with timely referral. This protocol must be documented and on file in the setting where used.

Standard operating procedures will be used at Woodridge Local Schools as written by Akron Children’s Hospital. For specific procedures, please refer to the copy on file in the Athletic Office.

Standard Operating Procedures DO NOT transfer to visiting teams.
Athletic Health Care Information (Continued)

A referral is not required for first aid and routine treatment. However, a referral is required for restorative treatment.

- **First Aid (no referral necessary)** - Basic, immediate care given on site to stabilize and prepare for evacuation and referral as needed.
- **Routine (no referral necessary)** - Maintenance and preventative measures commonly used by athletic trainers, such as pre-event warm-up and post-event cool Down procedures. The sole intent of treatments used is to maintain normal function during participation and daily living. For example, athletes sometimes request to be taped as a prophylactic measure or ritual for participation. Prophylactic taping is not care of an injury; it is a desire of the athlete, and does not call for the degree of skill in selection of taping method or application, as might be used by a licensed health care practitioner.
- **Restorative** - Patient specific instructions for use with a diagnosed injury or as prescribed by the referral source.

Athletic trainers may provide visiting teams, traveling without an athletic trainer or team physician, first aid/ emergency care and routine care. An athletic trainer can make return to play decisions for visiting team athletes if there is no injury present. They should not provide restorative treatments or return an injured athlete with a suspected injury to participation.
NCAA Division I Clearinghouse Initial Academic Eligibility

To participate in Division I athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during the first year of college, a student-athlete must:

Complete the 16 core-course requirement in eight semesters:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by the high school)
- 1 extra year of English, math or natural or physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of extra core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, non-doctrinal religion or philosophy)
- Earn a minimum required grade-point average in core courses
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches the core course grade-point average and test-score sliding scale. (For example, a 3.000 core-course grade-point average needs at least a 620 SAT).

***Student-athletes enrolling in college in August 2016 and later must meet all of the above requirements to receive aid in the first year and practice in the first term. In order to compete in the first year, prospects must meet all of the above and:

- Earn at least a 2.3 GPA in core courses
- Meet an increased sliding-scale standard
- Complete 10 core-courses prior to the start of the seventh semester, at least seven in English, math and science.

If a student-athlete earns nine credits in the first term, he or she can continue to practice the remainder of the year. If not, he or she can remain on aid but can’t practice.
If you enroll in a Division II college and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletics scholarship during your first year, you must:

- Graduate from high school;
- Complete these 16 core courses:
  - 3 years of English
  - 2 years of math (Algebra 1 or higher)
  - 2 years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered by your high school)
  - 3 additional years of English, math, or natural or physical science
  - 2 years of social science
  - 4 years of additional core courses (from any category above, or foreign language, non-doctrinal religion or philosophy);
- Earn a 2.000 grade-point average or better in your core courses; and
- Earn a combined SAT score of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

**Division II Qualifier**

**Being a qualifier entitles you to:**

- Practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Receive an athletics scholarship during your first year of college; and
- Play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

**Division II Partial Qualifier**

You will be considered a partial qualifier if you do not meet all of the academic requirements listed above but have graduated from high school and meet one of the following standards:

- The combined SAT score of 820 or ACT sum score of 68; or
- Completion of the 16 core courses with a 2.000 core-course grade-point average.

**As a partial qualifier, you:**

- Can practice with your team at its home facility during your first year of college;
- Can receive athletically related financial aid during your first year of college;
- Cannot compete during your first year of college; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.

**Division II Non-qualifier**

You will be considered a non-qualifier if you did not graduate from high school or if you graduated and are missing both the core-course grade-point average or minimum number of core courses and the required ACT or SAT scores.

**As a non-qualifier, you:**

- Cannot practice or compete for your college or university during your first year of college;
- Cannot receive athletically related financial aid during your first year of college, although you may receive need-based financial aid; and
- Can play four seasons in your sport if you maintain your eligibility from year to year.
Woodridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame Information

As it is currently structured, the Woodridge Athletic Hall of Fame selects individuals strictly on an automatic nomination basis. If student athletes meet ONE OR MORE of the following criteria, they are automatically inducted into the hall of fame the following year.

- First Team All-Ohio
- First Team All-PTC in the Same Sport for three years.
- Member of a State Sponsored All-Star Team
- Akron Beacon Journal Player of the Year

The current nomination process (above) has been in place for nearly 35 years and has built a strong and respectable Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is viewed as a tremendous accomplishment by the community and the individuals who have been inducted are respected by their peers.

With that in mind, as an athletic department we will make slight alterations to the nomination process to make the process current and reflective of the environment of high school interscholastic athletics today and into the future. Some of the most tenured Woodridge Coaches, employees, and community members have been consulted along with High School and Middle School administrators to come up with the best possible solution for all involved. Below is the new process for admittance into the Woodridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame:

1. A waiting period of 5 years after graduation or retirement is instituted for ALL INDUCTEES.
2. **Automatic Inductees** (After 5 years). In order to be inducted automatically, candidates must have achieved one or more of the following:
   - First Team All-Ohio
   - First Team All-League in the same sport for three years.
   - Two Time All-League Player of the Year.
   - Akron Beacon Journal Player of the Year.
   - If an individual qualifies for automatic induction, they will still have to be nominated after their 5 year waiting period. When the time comes, there will be a notification in the district website that we will be accepting nominations. Those selected will be notified and given instructions on how to proceed.

3. **Non-Automatic Nominations**: If a student athlete does not meet any of the above criteria but still were exemplary in their interscholastic athletic career at Woodridge high School, there will be a process by which they can be voted in. After a 5 year waiting period, individuals may be nominated and will be voted upon by a committee created by the Woodridge Alumni Association. When the time comes, there will be a notification on the district website that we will be accepting nominations. There will be no more than 3 of these individuals inducted in each Hall of Fame class. In order to be elected, you must be voted in by a majority decision by the committee. All graduating classes are eligible for this process. Nominations will be kept for 3 years and voted upon. After three years, you must re-submit the nomination for if you would like to keep getting voted upon. There will be no limit to how many times someone can be nominated and voted upon. Nominations may come from anywhere. All accomplishments must be verified. If an individual is voted in they will be notified by a committee member and given instructions on how to proceed.

   - **Establishing the Woodridge Alumni Association Hall of Fame Committee**: The involvement of the Alumni Association is crucial to this process. By creating a Hall of Fame committee, we are able to do so. The committee will be formed with an accurate representation of the Woodridge Community. The ultimate decision regarding membership on the committee will be up to the Alumni Association.

4. **Coaches/Influential Members of the Woodridge Community**: Until now there has not been a way to induct the influential leaders of our Woodridge Athletic Teams, both coaches and otherwise. We would like to start recognizing these individuals as members of the Hall of Fame. The nomination process will work the same as the Non-Automatic Nominations that are outlined above.
Woodridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame Information (Continued)

5. **Morals and Character**: All individuals seeking admittance into the hall of fame should have high morals and should be a constant example of good character and integrity. The Woodridge Administrative Team, Board of Education, and Alumni Association Hall of Fame committee reserve the right to voice concerns regarding a candidate's moral issues. If a concern is raised, there will be a lengthy discussion with all involved regarding their admittance. This is applicable to ALL INDUCTEES (both automatic and non-automatic). It is also expected that once an individual is entered into the hall of fame, that they continue to be good representatives of the Woodridge Community. If this is not the case, their membership in the hall of fame may be reviewed by the Committee and Woodridge Administrative Team.

The changes outlined here go into effect with the incoming 9th grade class during the 2014-15 school year. Individuals in that class would adhere to these guidelines when becoming eligible for the Hall of Fame (5 years after graduation). Creation of the committee will be the determination of the Woodridge Alumni Association, with the input of the Athletic Department, Woodridge Board of Education, and Woodridge Administrative Team. Individuals that were part

**Woodridge Athletic Leadership Council**

The Woodridge Athletic Leadership Council (WALC) was formed in 2015 to better utilize our student athlete leaders in the Woodridge Athletic Department and our community as a whole. The WALC consists of students in grades 10-12 that have been selected based submission of their names, most often through nominations by their respective coaches. Students are then selected by a group of current Woodridge High School coaches and administrators. WALC meets numerous times throughout the school year to talk critically about leadership and their role within the Woodridge community. Each school year, new members will be added through a nomination/application process to supplement the seniors who graduate.

**WOODRIDGE ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL Mission Statement**

- WALC has dedicated leaders who set examples for others to follow and we will do everything to support the Woodridge Community.
- WALC is dedicated to making Woodridge and the greater community more involved through athletic leadership and student services.
- WALC is committed to supporting and integrating our school with the community.
- WALC is committed to bettering our school and interacting with the community
- WALC is dedicated to providing leadership from an athletic standpoint. We will make it a priority to serve our district and community to make Woodridge a better school.
- WALC is dedicated to showing what Woodridge is really about by making sports more involved in the community. Thus making the community a family.

**WOODRIDGE ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL GOALS**

- Provide a forum for team leaders to learn and grow from the experiences of their peers who play different sports for different coaches.
- Promote communication between WHS administration, coaches, and student-athletes that will help to guide our athletic department in the future.
- Reinforce that team leaders are role models on and off the field of play who refrain from alcohol, drugs, and other illicit behaviors.
- Develop a sense of pride in bringing out the best in others.
- Convey the risks and rewards of being looked up to and relied upon by teammates and peers.
- Support existing community service projects and develop new service projects.