

Waynedale High School Student/Athlete Handbook

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GO BEARS!

A. Introduction

Athletic competition in our high schools has come to be an American tradition. In no other country have interscholastic athletics developed as they have in the United States. As school athletic programs continue to expand, it is important that all involved will clearly understand the expectations established herein. It is the intent of this handbook to put into writing the policies and procedures for interscholastic athletics at Waynedale High School. This handbook contains the current athletic policies and procedures as adopted by Waynedale High School in adherence with the rules of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Wayne County Athletic league. From time to time this handbook will be supplemented and updated through the additions or revisions of new policies or procedures.

B. Athletic Philosophy

The purpose of interscholastic athletics is to offer a well-planned and well balanced program of interscholastic athletics for as many secondary students as is possible, consistent with available facilities, personnel and financial support; and to operate and manage those athletic activities in harmony with the physical education program, Southeast Board of Education, the Ohio High School Athletic Association, and the Wayne County Athletic League.

C. Athletic Objectives

- 1) Athletics is an extension of the educational program and is a privilege. Academics must always take priority.
- 2) To promote a cooperative and supportive environment among athletes, coaches, and teams.
- 3) To develop and maintain the highest level of sportsmanship, proper attitudes toward winning and losing, and to encourage respect for teammates, fellow competitors, and officials.
- 4) To develop in our athletes a team concept building upon the intrinsic values that make athletic participation and competition worthwhile.
- 5) To be aware that the health and welfare of the individual always superseded that of the sport.
"The sport exists for the student – never the student for the sport."
- 6) To acknowledge that athletics can serve to greatly enhance the overall spirit of the school and community.

D. Eligibility Guidelines

The Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Southeast Local Board of Education determine the guidelines used towards athletic eligibility.

Academic Requirements:

- 1) A student in grades 9-12 must pass a minimum of 5 one-credit courses or the equivalent thereof in the immediately preceding grading period. Physical Education does not count towards eligibility.
- 2) A student must maintain at least a 1.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale in the preceding grading period.
- 3) A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the 8th grade, must have passed a minimum of 5 one-credit courses or the equivalent thereof in the immediately preceding grading period.
- 4) Summer school grades earned may not be used to substitute for failing grades from the last grading period of the regular school year.
- 5) If a student enrolled in high school attains the age of 20, they will not be able to participate in any OHSAA sanctioned sports at Waynedale High School.

Attendance Requirements:

- 1) Student/Athletes must be in attendance at least 5 periods on the day of athletic competition.
- 2) Any athlete absent on Friday must have parental permission to participate in a Saturday contest.
- 3) Excused absences other than illness will not effect requirement #1.
- 4) Athletes serving an out of school suspension (OSS) will not be allowed to participate. Any athlete serving an in-school suspension (ISS) will be eligible to participate.

Medical Requirements:

Every participant must have the following forms on file in the office (athletic or coaches) before participation can begin.

- 1) Signed and completed physical exam form.
- 2) Signed and completed Emergency Medical Authorization (E.M.A).
- 4) A Doctor must clear any athlete returning to competition following a Doctor authorized injury.

E. Sportsmanship

The purpose of interscholastic athletics is to offer a well-planned and well-balanced program of athletics for as many students as possible. We believe that promoting sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in interscholastic activities is a responsibility that we owe to our students, parents, community, and guests of Waynedale High School. It is our intention to strongly adhere to a policy that reflects these ideals.

Promoting sportsmanship is reflected through our athletes:

- 1) Treating opponents and officials with the respect that is due them as guests of Waynedale High School.
- 2) Shaking hands with opponents regardless of the outcome.
- 3) Dressing appropriately without bringing attention to one-self.
- 4) Being positive, without public criticism for officials or opposing players/coaches after the contest.
- 5) Refrain from using foul language, obscene gestures, and rude or inappropriate behavior to fellow competitors, fans, and officials.

Promoting sportsmanship should be exemplified through our parents/fans:

- 1) Treating opponents and officials with the respect that is due them as guests of Waynedale High School.
- 2) Refrain from using foul language, obscene gestures, and rude or inappropriate behavior to fellow competitors, fans, and officials.
- 3) Refrain from any physical or verbal confrontations with coaches, players, security personnel or administration.
- 4) Failure to abide by the above listed expectations could result in the fans removal. See Southeast Board policy IGDJ-R

F. Athletic Code of Conduct

The head coach has the right to make rules beyond those stated in the Athletic handbook. Such rules and regulations shall be distributed and discussed with the athletes. Copies should be submitted to the office for reference and filing. The student handbook code of conduct remains in effect and will be adhered to. A violation of the following rules may result in additional disciplinary action including but not limited to the denial of participation or dismissal from the activity. These rules apply to all interscholastic athletes at Waynedale High School. These and all training rules, policies, and procedures are in effect throughout the calendar year (12 month policies). Violations are cumulative throughout the athlete's four years of high school participation and disciplinary actions will carry over from one season to another or from one year to the next. A student entering Waynedale High School who is serving a violation from his/her previous school will serve the remainder of that penalty at Waynedale High School, as soon as the school administration has knowledge of that discipline.

An athletic council shall include the following 5 members: 2 coaches from a girl's sport, 2 coaches from a boy's sport, and the athletic director. All appeals will go to the high school principal. If a conflict of interest is present then the appeal will go to the superintendent. The Council will make decisions dealing with current policy, regulations, or contested rule infractions.

Major Offenses:

- 1) Damage to School/Private property – a student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to damage or destroy property of the Southeast Local Schools. Likewise a student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to damage or destroy the private property of school personnel, students and visitors of Southeast Local.
- 2) Theft or unauthorized possession of school property, theft of personal property of school personnel, students or visitors.
- 3) Possession of weapons or dangerous instruments. – A student shall not knowingly possess, use, and transmit a dangerous weapon.
- 4) Controlled substances (including counterfeit or look-a-like controlled substances) – a student shall not knowingly possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any controlled substances. Any drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician shall not be a violation.
- 5) Alcoholic beverages – a student shall not knowingly possess, use, transmit, or be under the influence of alcohol.
- 6) Assault of a School Employee – see student handbook # 3,4,5,7.
- 7) Criminal or civil violations – depending on the seriousness of the act committed such violations may be reviewed by the Athletic Council.
- 8) Any other violations found to be major offenses by the Athletic Council.

Athletes will face the following disciplinary action for committing a Major Offense:

1st Offense – Loss of 20% of current season – or equivalent in the next season of participation.

2nd Offense – Loss of participation for 1 calendar year effective on date of offense; OR

- a) Appear in front of the Athletic Council
- b) Removal for duration of season (Minimum 40% of current season or equivalent in the next season of participation)
- c) Adhere to any recommendations given by the Athletic Council
- d) For drug and alcohol related offenses, athlete must pass 3 random drug tests (paid for by the athlete)

3rd Offense – Loss of entire athletic career at Southeast Local Schools.

Minor Offenses: the following are examples of minor offenses

- 1) Continual school / Classroom disruptions.
- 2) Fighting / Harassment
- 3) Continual misconduct on the school bus.
- 4) Defiance or Obscenity
- 5) Tobacco products
- 6) Code of Conduct Violations – a student shall not repeatedly fail to comply with directions of school personnel during any period of time when he/she is properly under their authority. In addition, failure to comply with the rules and regulations set forth by the advisors/coach could result in the student's removal from the activity. The student code of conduct remains in effect for extra-curricular activities!

Athletes may face the following disciplinary actions for minor offenses:

1st Offense - 3 Days denial of participation

2nd Offense – 5 Days denial of participation

3rd Offense – Loss of 20% of the current season or the equivalent in the next season of participation. Any more offenses will progress to a major offense category at the 2nd offense level.

G. Due process for extracurricular activities:

The following procedures are established for all extra-curricular activities sponsored by Waynedale High School. Included, but not limited to, are all clubs, class organizations, athletic programs etc.

1. Rules/Regulations

Each coach/advisor shall distribute and explain the rules and regulations pertinent to their particular activity. A list of possible consequences and procedures will be reviewed. These rules/regulations must be on file with the Athletic Director/Principal.

2. Exclusion Procedures

- 1) The coach/advisor may recommend that a student be excluded from an activity for a period not to exceed ten school days. The Athletic Director/ Athletic Council may recommend a student be excluded from the activity for the remainder of the season.
- 2) The coach/advisor must give a written/verbal notice of the intention to exclude and the reason(s) why to the student in a timely manner.
- 3) The student must have the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the coach/advisor. This hearing may take place immediately.
- 4) Within twenty-four hours of the exclusion the coach/advisor or Athletic director must notify, in writing, the parent/guardian of the student and the principal of the exclusion. The notice must include the reason(s) for the exclusions, length of the exclusion and the students right to appeal to the principal/superintendent.

H. Conditioning Programs:

Coaches/Advisors may organize and conduct-conditioning programs for groups of students provided the guidelines are within the framework of OHSAA regulations. Programs must be open to all students who are interested in participating. The conditioning program is not to supersede state established practice dates. The OHSAA rules do not require physical exams and insurance before a student participates in a conditioning program. The coach/parents must be aware that the OHSAA Catastrophe Insurance Policy only covers injury to athletes while participating in practice sessions and contest that are sanctioned by the OHSAA. Conditioning programs are not sanctioned by the OHSAA.

I. Athletic Recognition

Athletes will be recognized during the conclusion of the Fall/Winter/Spring sports seasons. The Athletic Director in cooperation with the Waynedale Athletic Boosters will determine a date/time for the awards ceremony.

Scholar Athlete Award – This award is given to all athletes who receive a GPA of 3.5 or better during the corresponding grading period.

1st Year Varsity Letters – Each coach/advisor will determine what constitutes a varsity letter in his/her activity. Once an athlete has received a Varsity letter pins will be awarded for subsequent 1st Year Varsity letters.

2nd Year Varsity Letters – Students will receive a 2nd year certificate as well as a pin for the corresponding activity.

3rd Year Varsity Letters – Students will receive a 3rd year certificate as well as a pin for the corresponding activity.

4th Year Varsity Letters – Students will receive a 4th year plaque as well as a pin for the corresponding activity.

Junior Varsity Letters – Students will receive a Junior Varsity letter when they have completed the requirements as determined by the coach/advisor for his/her activity.

Letters of Participation – Students not receiving a Varsity letter and/ or who have already received a Junior Varsity letter will receive a certificate of Athletic Participation.

Varsity Letter Jackets – Students wishing to purchase a Waynedale Varsity Letter jacket must

have earned a Varsity Letter and have a signed verification from the Athletic Director.

PARENT/STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

We, _____ and _____
Parent/Guardian Student

have read the Waynedale High School and/or John R. Lea Middle School Athletic Handbook. We understand the rights and responsibilities pertaining to students and agree to support and abide by the rules, guidelines, procedures, and policies of Waynedale High School and/or John R. Lea Middle School. We also understand that this handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Date

Waynedale and John R. Lea handbooks can be found at www.whsgoldenbears.com
You can find them by clicking on Links/Forms. Please read the handbook that pertains to your child and sign the above form. If you do not have internet access, a hard copy of each can be found at the schools.