

KETTERING CITY SCHOOLS

The following pages contain our Athletic Code and Policies for all athletes in the Kettering City School District. Please keep a copy of this information at home for future reference and to assist with your participation at Kettering Middle School, Van Buren Middle School and Kettering Fairmont High School.

Kettering City Schools have a rich tradition of athletic excellence both on and off the field. We look forward to your participation and hope the following pages will help guide you in attaining your goals as a student/athlete in the Kettering City School District.

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Copies of the Athletic Code and Policies are available in the offices of each school, as well on the Kettering City School District website and Fairmont High School website. If you have any additional questions, please contact the Athletic Office at your representative school:

Athletic Office Phone Numbers:

Fairmont High School 499-1640
Kettering Middle School 499-1577
Van Buren Middle School 499-1806

Other:

Community Relations 499-1458
Student Services 499-1433
Fairmont Training Room 499-1705
Fairmont Athletic FAX 499-1541

Main Office Phone Numbers:

Fairmont High School 499-1600
Kettering Middle School 499-1550
Van Buren Middle School 499-1800

Websites:

www.firebirdathletics.com
www.ketteringschools.org
www.gwocsports.com
www.highschoolsports.net



Kettering City School District Athletic Code:

6.22

Athletes of the Kettering Schools are direct representatives of their school and are expected to conduct themselves in a way that will gain respect for both themselves and their school. Representing their school as an athlete is a privilege available to those who have the will and the desire to live by training rules. A well disciplined athlete accepts this as fact and abides by it. In accordance, the Kettering Board of Education believes that the use, possession, or sale of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco has no place in its athletic programs.

In order to assist in giving direction to our student athletes in observing the principles and responsibilities outlined above, the following policy will be observed:

- I. No athlete shall possess, use, sell, transmit, or have the distinct odor of any narcotic drug, controlled substance, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, intoxicant, mood-altering substance of any kind, anabolic steroid, or tobacco in any form.
- II. No athlete shall use, possess, or transport paraphernalia that is commonly associated with or construed to be used for any of the above mentioned chemicals or substances. Counterfeit controlled substances, as per O.R.C. 2925.37 and outlined in the Kettering Board of Education policy, will be considered violation of this policy.
- III. This policy will apply for all athletes involved in athletic programs administered by the Kettering Board of Education.
- IV. This policy is in effect three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year.
- V. The penalties in the policy are cumulative, beginning with the athlete's first involvement with the Kettering School District Athletic program.
- VI. **Procedures to be followed in dealing with the possession (including paraphernalia), consumption, use handling, giving, storing, concealing, or making of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or narcotics:**
 - A. **First Offense (selling).** This will result in nonparticipation without alternatives for one calendar year from date of offense. An athlete caught selling, who requests reinstatement after the one-year exclusion, must successfully complete Kettering City School's Insight Program, an alcohol/drug educational, self-assessment program, conducted by a Student Assistance program team member.
 1. Athletes in grades 9-12 will be required to attend six one-hour sessions after school, as scheduled by the facilitator. Athletes in grades 7-8 will be required to attend four sessions after school, as scheduled by the facilitator. If the violation occurs at the very end of the second semester, the program will have to be completed during the week immediately following the end of school.
 2. The only acceptable excuse for absence will be personal illness, which must be verified by a written statement from a medical doctor.
 3. The athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian must return for a second individual conference after completion of the program. If appropriate, information will be provided for parents or guardian about counseling/treatment options in the community.
 - B. **Second Offense (selling).** This will result in removal from athletic participation for the rest of the athlete's academic career in the Kettering School District.
 - C. **Any Offense (drug trafficking).** If an athlete, age sixteen (16) years or older, is convicted of, or adjudicated a delinquent child for drug trafficking, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.27(F), the Superintendent may recommend permanent exclusion from public school attendance pursuant to Board Policy number 6.31, Permanent Exclusion of a Student.
 - D. **First Offense (consumption, use, possession (including paraphernalia), handling, giving, storing, concealing, or making).** This will result in the following:
 - Nonparticipation for one year from date of offense
 - Revoke leadership position for one year

The nonparticipation portion of this penalty may be reduced if the athlete and parents or guardian agree to the following process confirmed by a written contract:

1. Athletes in grades 9-12 will be required to attend six one-hour sessions after school, as scheduled by the facilitator. Athletes in grades 7-8 will be required to attend four sessions after school, as scheduled by the facilitator. If the violation occurs at the very end of the second semester, the program will have to be completed during the week immediately following the end of school.
2. The only acceptable excuse for absence will be personal illness, which must be verified by a written statement from a medical doctor.
3. The athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian must return for a second individual conference after completion of the program. If appropriate, information will be provided for parents or guardian about counseling/treatment options in the community.
4. If the athlete successfully completes the educational program and follow-up conference with parents or guardian, the one-year nonparticipation penalty will be reduced to 20 percent nonparticipation (competition) calculated upon the regular season of that sport. The penalty served may include post season play. If less than 20 percent of that regular season remains, the remaining balance or percent will be applied to the athlete's next complete sports season, or their next season of participation, if the infraction occurs out of season. This reduction will begin after the individual and parent or guardians have signed the contract.
5. Practice attendance is required; however, he/she cannot travel with the team or sit on the bench. All training rules and requirements of the sport must be followed by the athlete.

E. Second Offense (consumption, use, possession (including paraphernalia), handling, giving, storing, concealing, or making). This will result in the following:

- Nonparticipation for one year from date of offense
- Revoke leadership position for one year

The nonparticipation portion of this penalty may be reduced if the athlete and parents or guardian agree to the following process confirmed by a written contract:

1. Athlete will be required to attend either Kettering City School's Insight Program or participate (accompanied by parent or guardian) in a professional alcohol/drug assessment at an approved agency, and to follow up on any recommendation for further counseling or treatment resulting from that assessment (option to be determined by school administration).
2. The family will authorize a release of information between the treatment agency and the school district for purpose of providing assessment information and progress reports. The reports must indicate that the athlete is attending regularly and giving full cooperation and effort.
3. Athlete will be subject to three (3) unannounced urinalysis drug screenings during the calendar year. The athletic department will incur cost (unless child tests positive and then the parents or guardian will be assessed that charge). The facility is to be determined by the school administration. Any positive results will result in reinstatement of the balance of the original nonparticipation for one-year consequence from the date of the positive test.
4. If the athlete successfully completes his/her contract, the one-year nonparticipation penalty will be reduced to 50 percent nonparticipation (competition) based upon the regular season of that sport or if less than 50 percent of that regular season remains the remaining balance or percent will be applied to the athlete's next sport season, or their next season of participation, if the infraction occurs out of season. This reduction will begin after the individual and parent/guardian have signed the contract.
5. Failure to successfully complete the terms of the contract will result in the re-instatement of the balance of the original nonparticipation to one-year consequence.
6. Practice attendance is required; however, he/she cannot travel with the team or sit on the bench. All training rules and requirements of that sport must be followed by the athlete.

F. All Subsequent Offenses (consumption, use, possession (including paraphernalia), handling, giving, storing, concealing, or making). This will result in the following:

- Removal from athletic participation for the rest of the athlete's academic career in the Kettering City School District. The participation program may be reduced to one calendar year nonparticipation (competition) if the athlete and parent or legal guardians agree to the following, confirmed by a written contract.

1. Athlete will be required to participate (accompanied by parent or guardian) in a professional alcohol/drug assessment at an approved agency (to be determined by school administration) and to follow up on any recommendation for further counseling or treatment resulting from that assessment.
2. The family will authorize a release of information between the treatment agency and the school district for purpose of providing assessment information and progress reports. The reports must indicate that the athlete is attending regularly and giving full cooperation and effort.
3. Athlete will be subject to three (3) unannounced urinalysis drug screenings during the calendar year. The athletic department will incur cost (unless child tests positive and then the parents or guardian will be assessed that charge). The facility is to be determined by the school administration.
4. Any positive results will result in the reinstatement of the original nonparticipation for the rest of the athlete's academic career in the Kettering City School District.
5. If the athlete successfully completes his/her contract, the career nonparticipation penalty will be reduced to one calendar year nonparticipation (competition). This reduction will begin after the individual and parent/guardian have signed the contract.

VII. An athlete may refer himself/herself or parents or guardian may refer their son/daughter because of alcohol/drug involvement. Unless it has already been reported that an alleged code violation has occurred, there shall be no non-participation penalty for self-referral if the athlete and parents or guardian agree to participate in the Insight educational program as previously described. Failure to follow through with the educational program will result in a first offense penalty. A second referral will result in a first offense penalty.

VIII. Use or possession of tobacco in any form

A. First Offense

1. There will be a 20 percent nonparticipation (competition) penalty, calculated upon the regular season of that sport. The penalty served may include post season play. If less than 20 percent of that regular season remains, the remaining balance or percent will be applied to the athlete's next complete sports season or their next season of participation, if the infraction occurs out of season.
2. Practice attendance is required; however, he/she cannot travel with the team or sit on the bench. All training rules and requirements of the sport must be followed by the athlete.

B. Second Offense

1. There will be a 50 percent nonparticipation (competition) penalty based upon the regular season of that sport or if less than 50 percent of that regular season remains, the remaining balance or percent will be applied to the athlete's next sport season, or their next season of participation, if the infraction occurs out of season.
2. Practice attendance is required; however, he/she cannot travel with the team or sit on the bench. All training rules and requirements of the sport must be followed by the athlete.

C. Subsequent Offenses

High School – Removal for rest of academic career in the Kettering City School District.

Middle School – Removal for one (1) calendar year in the Kettering City School District.

The nonparticipation penalty may be reduced for high school athletes if the athlete agrees to the following:

1. The athlete will be required to attend a smoking cessation program provided by an outside agency at his/her own expense. Full cooperation and effort will be expected.
2. If the athlete successfully completes the contract (providing a certificate of completion), the career nonparticipation penalty will be reduced to one calendar year nonparticipation (competition). This reduction will begin after the individual and parent or guardian has signed the contract.
3. Failure to successfully complete the terms of the contract will result in the re-instatement of the balance of the original nonparticipation for academic career.

IX. Improper Conduct

- A. The penalty for improper conduct, on or off school property, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Athletic Director and the School Principal, taking into consideration the following factors, among others:

1. The degree to which the athlete's conduct poses a threat or risk to the safety and well being of others.
2. The degree to which the conduct brings discredit to the Kettering City School District and its athletic programs.
3. Improper conduct that results in the involvement of police departments and/or the court system. Situations that involve police departments or the court system can have a protracted timeframe of resolution. For this reason, the Athletic Department can take action even while charges against the athlete are pending. An analysis of the underlying facts and the degree of cooperation of the athlete will help to determine any decisions that are made.

X. Athletic Eligibility

- A. Eligibility requirements, as established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association shall be observed.
- B. Eligibility requirements as established by the Kettering Board of Education shall be observed.

XI. Procedure for implementing the Athletic Code

- A. If the violation occurs at school or during a school-sponsored event or activity, the athlete's Unit Principal will administer disciplinary policy.
 1. The athlete would be subject to the Student Conduct Code as well as the Athletic Code.
 2. If the athlete and parent or guardian accepts the alternative, the Unit Principal will ask the athlete and parent or guardian to sign two contracts, one pertaining to the Student Conduct Code and a second pertaining to the Athletic Code. The Unit Principal will provide the athlete and parent with a review of both codes of conduct.
 3. The Unit Principal will inform the Athletic Director of the results of the code review.
- B. If the violation occurs away from school and away from school events, the Athletic Director will conduct the review and explain the code to the athlete and parents or guardian.
- C. It will be the shared responsibility of the Athletic Director and the Unit Principal to inform one another when the athlete has completed the school Insight or Tobacco Education programs or the outside agency programs.

XII. Appeal Procedure

XIII. The penalties in the policy are cumulative, beginning with the athlete's first involvement with the Kettering City School District athletic programs whether in middle school or high school.

XIV. Athletes at the middle school with one or more violations of the drug/alcohol (exception: selling or trafficking) and/or tobacco components of this code will carry with them the equivalent of one violation in either or both categories when they matriculate to the high school.

XV. Athlete = any student who has ever been on a state eligibility/participation list and/or signed an Athletic Code of Conduct.

XVI. Infractions must be observed by Kettering City School District personnel or a governmental/city official who can provide information about the action he/she observes including the time and the place. This person should be prepared to document the allegation.

Revised 3-7-89

Revised 2-16-93

Revised 11-5-96

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Revised 11-16-93

Revised 5-5-98

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2431 Kettering City Schools Athletic Policy

I. Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to give student athletes, support personnel and other interested persons a guide to the operation of the interscholastic athletic program of the Kettering City School District.

The student athletes and support personnel are obligated to conform to the Student Code of Conduct as established by the Board of Education, training rules and policies established by the Athletic Department and the rules and regulations established by the coaches of each specific sport.

This policy will inform you and your parent/guardians of the rules that are appropriate while you represent the Kettering City School District. It is your responsibility as a student to read these rules and to abide by them. It must be understood that participants who violate the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures shall face disciplinary action.

II. Philosophy

Athletics are an important and integral part of the total school program in the Kettering City School District. School activities should neither have precedence over educational activities nor should they be considered unworthy of educational attention. Athletics teach participants the value of cooperation and competition in achieving team goals. The additional time and physical requirements of these activities demand that each participant attain and maintain his/her best physical and mental condition.

Every athlete must be aware that he/she represents more than himself/herself. Because he/she represents the team, school, and community, his/her conduct must reflect this responsibility. Standards of behavior are established to enable students to meet their responsibilities, as well as to promote safety and assist participants in reaching their maximum potential. It must be remembered that participation in athletics is not a right, but a privilege that may be regulated.

III. Definition of an Athlete

“Athlete” for the purpose of these rules and regulations shall be defined as any student enrolled in the Kettering City School District who:

- A. Participates in district sponsored/financed interscholastic activities
- B. Any student on state eligibility/participation lists

IV. Expectations of Athletes

- A. Maintain athletic and academic eligibility.
- B. Sign and return acknowledgement of the Athletic Policy (on physical card).
- C. Display proper behavior both in and out of school.
- D. Model a strong commitment to abstain from tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use.
- E. Respect authority – parents, officials, teachers, coaches, administrators, and others. Demonstrate a dedication to high standards in the classroom and a dedication to hard work and training.

V. Regulations for Participation

- A. Any athlete who has been dismissed from a squad for any violation during a sport season will not be eligible to participate on any other athletic squad in any other sport during the same sport season.
- B. If an athlete is cut from a squad, the individual may tryout for another team in the same season if the time and opportunity permits the tryout to take place.
- C. No athlete shall be added to eligibility after one-week prior to the first contest in that sport. An exception to this rule would be a student who moves into the district after such date; such student may be allowed to tryout for a team if the student is eligible and the time and opportunity permits the tryout to take place.
- D. **Transportation/Travel** – All participating team members must travel to and from contests by means of school arranged/approved transportation. The parents or legal guardians may request that the athletes ride home from a contest or to other scheduled school sponsored events with them; however, such a request must be in writing and approved by the administration prior to the game/event. Special consideration will only be given in extraordinary circumstances. Travel release forms are available in each unit office, athletic office, and online at www.firebirdathletics.com.
- E. **Permission to Participate** – Before an individual may participate in conditioning or practice, a valid physical, medical history, and emergency medical authorization signed by the student and parent/guardian must be on file in the Athletic Office.

- F. **Attendance/Participation** – An athlete must be in attendance for a half-day to participate in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity that day. Pre-approved, documented absences (college visits, doctor and dentist appointments, funerals, court appearances, etc...) are exceptions to the attendance policy. Parental notes are not sufficient to create an exception to this policy. Emergencies and other extenuating circumstances must be handled through the Principal and/or Athletic Director.
- G. **Eligibility**- All participants must be eligible at the time of tryouts to be eligible for the team. No students will be allowed to tryout for the team after re-establishing eligibility. To be eligible by OHSAA standards, during the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation for a student in grades 9-12. A student in grade 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades in a minimum of five of those subjects in which the student received grades. In addition to the OHSAA standards, all Kettering students must meet Kettering City School District Standards as approved by the Board of Education (see policy 6.26ba). Highlights of the policy include (but are not limited to):

1. Students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in interscholastic athletics must achieve a 1.5 GPA, or better, on a 4.0 scale and shall not have failed more than one (1) subject the preceding grading period (see Exception 1).
2. Students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in interscholastic athletics whose quarter average falls below 2.00 but meets all other standards must formally apply, and be accepted, into the Academic Intervention Program.

EXCEPTION 1: Students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in interscholastic athletics who have failed two (2) classes but meets all other Kettering School District and OHSAA Eligibility standards must formally apply, and be accepted, into the Academic Intervention Program.

3. Students entering the Kettering School District for the first time must bring with them grades that fall within the parameters of this policy to be eligible for their first quarter of attendance. Students entering the 7th grade for the first time have no eligibility requirements for the first grading period.

- H. Student athletes play a fundamental role. We ask that you take that responsibility seriously and lead by example. Please attend our athletic contests with spirit and enthusiasm, but also with courtesy to our opponents and their fans. Together, we hope to establish a positive image of the Kettering City Schools. Some guidelines for sportsmanship include (but are not limited to):

1. Showing respect for opponents at all times.
2. Showing respect for officials and their decisions.
3. Knowing and following the rules of the contest.
4. Maintaining self-control at all times.
5. Recognizing and appreciating skilled performances regardless of affiliation.

- I. **Squad Limitations** – Sometimes it is necessary to trim the size of a team down to a workable number. When “cutting” of a student athlete is necessary, the coach will meet with the student/athletes to explain the criteria used to reduce the team. Tryouts will be at least three (3) days in length from the start of the official practice before reductions are made to ensure adequate time to evaluate candidates.

An eligible student completing the fall or winter sports season will also be assured a tryout of at least three (3) days. Every attempt will be made to give each student the same amount of time to demonstrate skills. The Head Coach will be responsible for making the final decision with respect to his/her team.

Any student “cut” from a squad will be entitled to a conference with the coach to explain the reasons why he/she did not make the team and to suggest positive alternatives for improving skills, thereby enhancing his/her opportunity for making the team in the future.

- J. **Vacations** – Vacations by athletic team members during a sport season are discouraged. Players and parents make a commitment to that sport for that season. In the event that absence due to vacation is unavoidable, the athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parent/guardian while on vacation.
2. Contact the Head Coach prior to the vacation.
3. Practice one day for each practice or contest missed prior to resuming competition.
4. Be willing to assume the consequences related to his/her status on that team.

- K. **Two Sport Participants** – A student/athlete may participate in one (1) team sport only during each of the three (3) sport seasons. Exceptions to this policy may be made only when determined to be beneficial to the athlete and the athletic program. The student/athlete will meet with the Athletic Director and involved coaches to make a formal request to participate on more than one team during the same sport season.

- L. **Special Team Rules** – Coaches may have team rules in addition to the Athletic Policy, provided they are submitted to the Athletic Director for approval and are in print prior to the beginning of his/her sport and are distributed to team members.

- M. **Lettering/Awards** - Awards are presented to student/athletes to represent specific accomplishment. Awards are earned; not just given away. A student/athlete will be presented an award for his/her participation when and if he/she meets the following criteria:
1. Attend and participate in practice to the satisfaction of the coach.
 2. Meet all the requirements of the Athletic Policy and secure the recommendation of the coach.
 3. Participate in the required number of quarters, halves, games, etc. or have earned a certain level of points.
 4. Special consideration may also be presented based on coach's recommendation and approval of the Athletic Director.
- N. **Athletic Equipment/Uniforms** -As an athlete participating in interscholastic activities, you have the following responsibilities concerning school issued uniform and equipment items:
1. It is your responsibility to periodically, (at least weekly) examine your equipment for damage. Bring all your equipment problems immediately to the attention of your coach.
 2. Your equipment and uniform are issued to you alone.
 3. You are responsible for the security of these items; keep all items under lock.
 4. Do not loan your equipment or uniform to others.
 5. Equipment or uniform items that are lost or stolen are your financial responsibility.
- O. **Injured Athlete** - Any athlete who has been denied participation by a physician will not be permitted to practice or play in a game/event until a physician's release has been granted and a copy of that release is in possession of the Athletic Department. Written clearance may be brought in by the athlete and given to the Athletic Trainer or emailed, scanned or faxed to the Athletic Office. The Board of Education hired Athletic Trainer has the authority to deny participation to an injured athlete. A coach, parent, or athlete cannot override a physician's or Athletic Trainer's denial of participation for injury. In addition, a family physician's release does not automatically override the decision of the Athletic Trainer and the School Physician. Injured athletes should attend all practices, games and other team functions unless the injury absolutely prevents this.
- P. **Activity Conflict Resolution** - The "performance" (athletic event, concert, play, etc.) has priority over any practice or extra rehearsal. In the events of conflicts, the performance takes priority and nonparticipation by the student shall not be penalized.
1. Whenever possible, all conflicts should be handled prior to the beginning of the season/rehearsals. It is expected for the coach/advisor to have a complete understanding of the availability of that student in the development of the program of that coach/advisor.
 2. Award banquets would take priority over practice but not a performance. All conflicts should be addressed directly between coach/advisor. The student should not be placed in the middle of any conflict. Final resolution may be made by the principal.
 3. In the event a performance conflicts with a game being scheduled at the same time, the student is permitted a choice without consequence. However, make-up work or alternate assignments for grade compensation may be assigned. If this causes a problem, the Principal will act as arbitrator and his/her decision will be final.
 4. At times, events must be rescheduled. If the student has two performances/events at the same time, the previously scheduled performance/event has priority over the rescheduled event.
- Q. **School Suspension / Participation Guidelines** –
1. **In-School Study (ISS)** - Students who have been assigned In-School Study will be permitted to practice with their team while serving their ISS. They are ineligible to play a game until their ISS is concluded (end of the school day). If the days include a weekend, the student shall NOT participate on the Saturday or Sunday, or any holiday which may be included. The student may only compete at the end of their assignment.
 2. **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** - Students who have been assigned Out-of School Suspension (OSS) are ineligible for games or practices until the day after their suspension ends.
 3. **Saturday School** - Students who have been assigned Saturday School will be allowed to practice and/or compete with their team in the days prior to their Saturday School. Students who do not attend their assigned Saturday School are not permitted to attend any school activities for the duration of that weekend - this may include activities such as participation in athletics or attendance at a dance. In addition, the student will meet with his/her Unit Principal on Monday (or next school day) to determine consequence for missing Saturday School.
- R. **Student Participation** - It is the belief of the Kettering City Schools Athletic Program that in every interscholastic sports program for students in the seventh grade through graduation that our main concerns are the following:
1. The development of the student/athlete to his/her highest ability level.
 2. The development of sportsmanship, discipline, loyalty and selflessness.
 3. To aid in the accomplishment of these concerns, each coach will develop a goal that will allow any individual on the team to receive an adequate amount of participation in games. We understand that a coach would still have the authority to modify these guidelines where the discipline, injury, or health and well being of the student are involved.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

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

RESIDENCE

A student is eligible at the school located in the OHIO school district where the parent or legal guardian resides when all other eligibility standards are met. If you parent/legal guardian lives outside of Ohio, you are not eligible unless you meet one of the exceptions to the residency bylaws.

When there has been a change of custody, the student must reside in the same school district with the legal guardian.

CHANGING SCHOOLS – TRANSFERS

Bylaw 4-7-1 – The transfer bylaws apply to all students enrolled in grades 9-12. These bylaws apply to all schools, both public and non-public.

Bylaw 4-7-2 – A student is considered to have transferred whenever enrollment is changed from one school to another school, or whenever the student participates in a practice, scrimmage or contest with a school-sponsored squad of a school in which the student was not been enrolled. If a student transfers at any time after the fifth day of the student's ninth grade year or after having established eligibility prior to the start of school by playing in a contest (scrimmage, preview or regular season/tournament contest), until the one year anniversary of the date of enrollment in the school to which the student transferred, the student shall be ineligible for the first fifty percent (50%) of the maximum allowable regular season contests in those sports in which the student participated during the (12) months immediately preceding this transfer. **NOTE:** For purposes of this bylaw, a student is considered to have participated in a sport if he/she has entered, if for only one play, a scrimmage or contests at any level of competition/contests (e.g. freshman, junior varsity and varsity).

Always check with your school principal or official designate before you change schools to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

SEMESTERS OF ELIGIBILITY

When you enroll in grade 9 for the first time, you have eight semesters of athletic eligibility taken in order of attendance whether you participate or do not participate.

AGE LIMITATIONS

GRADES 9-12 If a student enrolled in high school attains the age of 19 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in high school interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year.

GRADES 7-8 If a student enrolled in grades 7 or 8 attains the age of 15 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in 7th/8th grade interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year.

If you are 15 years of age prior to August 1, you are eligible to participate in athletics in grades 9-12. Consult your principal for procedures to follow.

AWARDS

You may receive an award or merchandise as a result of your participation in school or non-school competition from any source, provided the value does not exceed \$100 per award.

OPEN GYM

An "Open Gym" is a facility in which the doors or gates are unlocked and open for unstructured free play, and no one is restricted from observing the play. The school may designate the sport to be played.

Athletes may participate provided:

- A. Participation is not limited to a select group of students from within a school.
- B. There is not designation of who shall play on which team or who shall play whom except by the students who participate.
- C. Regulation timing is not kept.
- D. Written scoring is not kept.
- E. No individual invitations, oral or written, are extended.
- F. There is no coaching or instruction.

These regulations pertain to both school and non-school facilities. Please note: Athletes shall not be required to attend open gyms.

PENALTY: The penalty for violation is ineligibility for interscholastic athletics not to exceed one year.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

Athletes in all OHSAA recognized sports are subject to the Instructional Program regulations. Examples include but are not limited to camps, clinics, workshops, practices, etc.

- A. Instructional programs out of the season of the sport involving team play (any activity of individuals with more than one player opposing one player) may be attended at any time from August – May 31 as long as the 50% limitation expressed in the OHSAA General Sports Regulation 6.5 is maintained.
- B. There is not limit on the number of players from the same school participating on the same team during the period of June 1 – July 31 (in the sports of baseball and softball, the period is the Friday before Memorial Day-May 25 in 2012-through July 31), provided the squad members have concluded their school season.
- C. Individual skill instruction may be received in any sport by a squad member at any time in individual lessons provided that these individual skill instructions do not violate any Board of Education, school administrators' or coaches' policies. Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, the coach may not conduct individual or group lessons for a squad member except during June 1 – July 31 and during the season of the sport.
- D. Interscholastic coaches in the individual sports of girls gymnastics, boys and girls swimming and diving, boys and girls golf, boys and girls tennis, and boys and girls bowling may coach athletes from the school where employed outside the interscholastic season of the sport.
- E. In non-interscholastic participation (contests, tryouts, training and practices) in team sports, members of the school's interscholastic coaching staff may coach interscholastic squad members from the school district where employed for a maximum of 10 days from June 1 to July 31. The 10-day limitation applies to the entire coaching staff.
- F. Football squad members may play non-interscholastic NON-CONTACT football only during June and July either in non-interscholastic competition or during instructional programs.

NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC PARTICIPATION

- A student is considered to be a member of an interscholastic squad when the student participates in an interscholastic contest in a sport that is sponsored by the Board of Education or other governing board and the sport is one of the 24 recognized sports as authorized by the OHSAA. An athletic contest involving participants from another school or any non-interscholastic program is labeled as a game, meet, match, preview, scrimmage or other type of competition.
- A member of an interscholastic squad sponsored by the Board of Education or other governing board in team sport (Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Ice Hockey, Soccer, Softball, and Volleyball) shall not participate in an athletic contest, tryouts or any other type of team or group training or practices on a non-interscholastic squad in a team sport in the same sport during the school's interscholastic sports season.

OHSAA General Sport Regulation 7.5 allows athletes to participate in non-scholastic contests, tryouts, training or practices prior to, and after, the school's interscholastic season under the following conditions:

A. The number of interscholastic squad members from the same school on the non-interscholastic squad is limited to a maximum of 50% of the members of a team as defined in the playing rules of the sport. From June 1 through July 31 this restriction is not in effect, provided the squad members have concluded their school season. The 50% limitation is defined as follows for all OHSAA recognized team sports. 4 Baseball and Softball, 2 Basketball, 5 Field Hockey, Football, and Soccer, and 3 Volleyball.

B. An interscholastic squad member may continue participation with a non-interscholastic squad in a national qualifying tournament after July 31 until the squad is eliminated from the national qualifying tournament but no later than Labor Day.

C. Graduating seniors who are participating on a non-interscholastic squad after their final interscholastic contest in a season in the same sport are exempt from this limitation.

PENALTY: The maximum penalty for violation of this regulation for any member of a school squad, excepting a senior, shall be ineligibility in that sport for the remainder of the season or the ensuing season. If a senior, the maximum penalty shall be ineligibility for all interscholastic athletics the remainder of the school year.

RECRUITING OF ATHLETES

You will be ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to change schools. It may also affect the eligibility of the schools athletic teams.

**THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS IS PUBLISHED IN THE
OHSAA HANDBOOK.**

VISIT WWW.OHSAA.ORG TO REVIEW THE BYLAWS.

Eligibility Checklist for High School Student-Athletes

Before you play you must be eligible. Please review the following checklist with your parents. Unchecked boxes will likely mean you are not eligible. For questions, see your counselor, athletic director, or principal.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. I am officially enrolled in an OHSAA member High School. | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. I am competing under my true name and have provided my school with my correct home address. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. I am enrolled in at least five on credit courses or equivalent. | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. I have not competed in a mandatory open gym/facility. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. I received passing grades in at least five one courses, or the equivalent, during by last grading period. | <input type="checkbox"/> 11. I have not been coached or been provided instruction by a school coach other than during days between June 1 and July 31 (applies to team sports only). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. I live in the same school district as my parents or legal guardian. | <input type="checkbox"/> 12. I am not competing on a non-school team during my school team's season. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. I have not changed schools without a corresponding move by my parents or legal guardian or by qualifying for one of the exceptions to the OHSAA transfer regulation. | <input type="checkbox"/> 13. I have not been recruited to attend this school. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. I have not been enrolled in high school for more than eight semesters. | <input type="checkbox"/> 14. I am not using anabolic steroids or other performance enhancing drugs. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. I did not turn 19 before August 1. | <input type="checkbox"/> 15. I have had a physical examination within the past year and it is on file at my school. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. I have not received an award, equipment or prize valued at greater than \$100 per item. | |

Please check with your athletic administrator or principal if you have any questions on athletic eligibility!



**Respect
THE
GAME**

All OHSAA bylaws and regulations from the handbook are also posted at:

www.ohsaa.org

High School Enrollment Fee Structure

LEVEL I:	\$60	All athletic teams, except Cross Country, Tennis, Swimming and Cheerleading
LEVEL II:	\$40	Cross Country, Tennis and Swimming
LEVEL III:	\$30	Cheerleading

ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MAXIMUM.....	\$120
ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL FAMILY MAXIMUM.....	\$150
ANNUAL TOTAL FAMILY MAXIMUM (BOTH HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL)	\$150

❖ *Any student receiving free/reduced lunch must first complete the Waiver Form in order to be considered for reduced Participation Fees.*

Examples:

(1) High School Individual Student Maximum:

Student involved in Football, Basketball, and Baseball **\$60+\$60+\$60**
*The total is \$180, however, the HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MAXIMUM IS \$120
Which is the total that this student would pay in Enrollment Fees.*

(2) High School Family Maximum:

Senior Student involved in Football and Basketball **\$60+\$60**
Sophomore Student involved in Football and Baseball **\$60+\$60**
*The total is \$240, however, the HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL FAMILY MAXIMUM IS \$150, which is the
total that this family would pay in Enrollment Fees.*

Middle School Enrollment Fee:

LEVEL I:	\$37	All athletic teams, except Track, Cross Country, and Cheerleading
LEVEL II:	\$27	Track, Cross Country, and Cheerleading

ANNUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MAXIMUM.....	\$74
ANNUAL MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILY MAXIMUM: (More than one child participating).....	\$101

Examples:

(1) Middle School Student Maximum:

8th Grader involved in Football, Basketball, and Track **\$37+\$37+\$37**
*The total is \$101, however, the MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL MAXIMUM IS \$74, which is
the total that this student would pay in Enrollment Fees.*

(2) Middle School Family Maximum:

8th Grader involved in Football and Basketball **\$37+\$37**
7th Grade sibling involved in Volleyball and Track **\$27+\$37**
*The total is \$138, however, the MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNUAL FAMILY MAXIMUM IS \$101, which is the
total that this family would pay in Enrollment Fees.*

A TOTAL FAMILY DISTRICT MAXIMUM OF \$150 HAS BEEN SET FOR FAMILIES WITH STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AT BOTH THE HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVELS.

Example of Family District Maximum:

Senior at Fairmont participating in Football and Track **\$60+\$60**
8th Grader participating in Volleyball, Basketball, and Track **\$37+\$37+\$27**
*The total is \$221, however, the FAMILY DISTRICT ANNUAL MAXIMUM IS \$150, which is the total that
this family would pay in Enrollment Fees.*