

Athletic / Activities Handbook

2018-2019



Winfield R-IV School District

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PHILOSOPHY

We believe that interscholastic activities shall supplement the secondary curricular program and as such become a vital part of a student's total educational experience. These experiences contribute to the development of learning skills and emotional patterns that enable the student to make maximum use of his/her education.

Student participation in any part of our activities is a privilege not a right. This privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the activity, to the student body, to the community and to the student himself. This participation will help to develop the student physically, mentally, socially and emotionally.

MISSION

We believe the mission of the Winfield School District co-curricular program is to provide opportunities and experiences for all students to develop the following skills:

- Respect for self and others
- Ability to take positive risks
- Appreciation of one's talents and weaknesses
- Recognition of the value of physical, academic, and aesthetic pursuits
- Understanding of teamwork and sharing of common goals which contribute to the good of the whole
- Realization of the importance of life skills
- Awareness of the diversity in one's own and others' cultural backgrounds

We also believe that by the student's involvement in activities, he/she will have built the self-worth and integrity necessary to be able to cope with future successes and failures. To meet this end, the student must have also gained the qualities of realistic goal setting, of positive interdependence, and of moral judgment.

Activities in our program create an avenue of enrichment, entertainment, and proud association for parents and community. Through well-directed activities, we strive to enable students to contribute responsibly and ethically within society, now and in the future.

GOALS

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCESS

- To teach the students to motivate themselves for excellence.
- To teach fundamental, social, emotional, and academic skills.
- To create opportunities for students to develop self esteem.
- To effectively evaluate performance.
- To model appropriate behaviors.
- To develop teamwork and loyalty.
- To teach fundamental knowledge of activity.
- To share effective coaching methods.
- To teach responsibility, respect for others and property by developing teamwork and loyalty.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- To promote involvement in activities and communicate effectively with parents, students, community, and media.
- To create high expectations for achievement in high school programs.
- To promote high standards of academic performance.
- To offer multi-levels of opportunity.
- To encourage student participation.
- To utilize staff and resources effectively.
- To develop effective practice, rehearsal, and schedules to maximize use of time.
- To encourage all participants to support other activities.
- To develop programs for care of injuries and promote overall well being.

INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

- To promote a positive relationship among team members.
- To develop positive leadership qualities in students.
- To promote appreciation for and acceptance of the differences of others.
- To show respect for the total person on social and emotional levels.
- To promote good working relationships with the administrators.
- To promote a positive image of our programs.
- To develop an attitude of partnership, appreciation, and sportsmanship among coaches, parents, students, and community.
- To communicate with parents, community, and media regarding student programs.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- To demonstrate a commitment to professional growth.
- To follow policies and procedures of the school district.
- To assume responsibilities outside of coaching as related to school.

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Missouri State High School Activities Association

The Winfield School District is a member of the MSHSAA. The purpose of this organization is to promote, develop, direct, protect, and regulate amateur interscholastic athletic relationships between member schools and to stimulate fair play, friendly rivalry, and good sportsmanship among contestants, schools, and communities throughout the state.

The Gateway Athletic Conference

Winfield High School is a member of the Gateway Athletic Conference, which has been organized to stimulate and promote friendly rivalry and greater interest in our high school activities.

Championships in boy's sports are recognized in baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, golf, soccer, and track/field. Championships in girl's sports are recognized in softball, basketball, cross-country, volleyball, golf, soccer, and track/field.

Middle School Athletics

Seventh and eighth grade athletic teams compete with other schools in the area in cross country, volleyball, football, basketball, softball and track/field.

The Superintendent of Schools

The executive function is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, who establishes the ways and means of executing efficiently all policies adopted by the Board of Education.

He recommends to the Board of Education the appointment of all personnel who are given any responsibility for handling interscholastic athletics, and he approves all policies and procedures recommended by his staff; and is, in fact, directly responsible to the School Board for the successful performance of the organization.

The School Principal

The school principal is the administrative head of interscholastic athletic activities, as well as all other activities of his/her school. As administrative head of the school, he/she is directly responsible to the Superintendent of Schools, to the MSHSAA, and the Eastern Missouri Conference.

Supervision of athletic contests is a cooperative matter among the principals, assistant principals, athletic director, and/or designated supervisor.

The Activities Director

Under the supervision of the principal, the building activities director plans, coordinates, promotes, and supervises the total activities program for the school.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The following policy statement from the **National Federation of State High School Associations** expresses the concept of sportsmanship as follows:

"The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and integrity permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior, which are characterized, by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity."

One of the main goals of the athletic/activities program is to teach the concept of sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship requires that everyone be treated with respect. This includes members of the opposing team, officials, coaches and spectators.

Good sportsmanship includes showing courtesy and kindness toward your opponent as well as fellow team members. The contest is judged by the effort of the participants and not by putting down your opponent.

Winning is exciting, but winning at any cost is not the goal. Negative treatment of any participant is outside the spirit and interest of the contest.

All MSHSAA sanctioned events are a reflection of our community and school. The conduct of the team is extended to parents and fans before, during, and after athletic events.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As a student participant, you are in school to secure the best secondary education you are capable of achieving. Deciding to take advantage of this component plays a significant part in your total educational development. However, with this decision also come certain responsibilities, if the value of activities is to be achieved, namely:

- Striving to achieve sound citizenship and desirable social traits, including; control, honesty, cooperation, dependability, and respect for others and their abilities.
- Maintaining academic and eligibility standards as established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association and the Winfield School District.
- Learning the spirit of hard work and dedication.
- Attaining mental and physical fitness through good health habits.
- Excelling to the limits of your potential.
- Showing respect for both authority and property.
- Willing to accept the leadership role that is instilled through the activity program.

Athletes need to keep in mind that they are in the public eye and that their personal conduct always must be above reproach. Athletes have an obligation to create a favorable image and to gain the respect of their teammates, student body, and community.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Athletes must have a physical examination each school year before he/she will be allowed to practice for any sport. (A physical examination dated February 1 of the previous school year is valid for the upcoming school year.)

Example – if the current school year is 2017-2018 and your physical is dated 02/15/2017, this physical is good until the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

The district athletic physical form (MSHSAA Form) must be used. Blank physical forms can be found in the Activities Directors office at the high school, the nurse's office at the middle school, or you may also go to the Missouri State High School Athletic Association website, www.mshsaa.org

Completed physical examination will be on file in the office of the Activities Director.

Parent permission blanks are included as part of the physical examination form. Make sure this is completed and properly signed by the parent. Insurance company policy number must be included in order for the physical to be valid.

PROTECT YOUR ELIGIBILITY

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), of which the Winfield School District is a member, is a voluntary, nonprofit, educational association of junior and senior high schools established for the purpose of working cooperatively in adopting standards for supervising and regulating interscholastic activities and contests.

One of the primary functions of the MSHSAA is to establish eligibility standards that must be met by all students to attain the privilege of representing their school in interscholastic activities.

Eligibility is a PRIVILEGE to be granted by the school to a student, which allows that student to participate in interscholastic activities. Eligibility is NOT A STUDENT'S RIGHT BY LAW. Precedent setting legal cases have determined that eligibility is a privilege to be granted only if the student meets all standards adopted by the school, which enables the school to grant the student such a privilege.

Listed below is information to acquaint you with the major rules and regulations you must follow in order to protect your eligibility.

1. You must be a creditable school citizen. Creditable school citizens are those students whose conduct, both in and out of school, will not reflect discredit upon themselves or their schools.
2. Academics
 - a. You must be enrolled in courses offering 3.00 units of credit. (This is normally six courses).
 - b. You must have earned 3.00 units of credit the preceding semester.
3. Transferring schools
 - a. If you transfer schools and your parents do not move to your new school district, you will be ineligible for 365 days, unless you meet one of the exceptions to the transfer or promotion rules. (See your principal or activities director regarding non-traditional households).
 - b. If you move with your parents to your new school district you will be eligible immediately.
4. Participation limits
 - a. You are eligible to participate in any sport for a maximum of four seasons. Any part of a game played during a season counts as a season of participation.
 - b. Your eligibility to participate in high school activities begins when you first enter the ninth grade and lasts for the first eight semesters that you are enrolled in high school. Your eighth semester must immediately follow your seventh semester.
5. Awards standards
 - a. You may not receive cash, merchandise, or gift certificates for participating in an athletic contest.

- b. You may accept awards that are symbolic in nature, such as medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, etc., for participating in a school athletic program. These awards may be received only from your school, from a school hosting an event, or from the MSHSAA
 - c. You may accept awards for participating in non-school-sponsored athletic competition only if the awards are symbolic in nature, such as medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, etc., or merchandise that shall not exceed \$100.00 in manufacturer's suggested retail price.
- 6. If you reach the age of 19 prior to July 1, you will be ineligible for interscholastic competition the next school year.
- 7. Non-school competition
 - a. You may not participate in any organized non-school athletic competition and your school team **IN THE SAME SPORT** during the same season with the exception of swimming (please see the activities director with these circumstances).
 - b. You may participate on a school team and a non-school team in different sports during the same season; however, you may not practice or compete in non-school organized athletic competition **ON THE SAME DAY** that you practice or compete with your school team without approval of the school administration.
 - c. Before you join any non-school team or enter any non-school competition involving athletics, check with the activities director to make certain these standards are being met.
- 8. You may participate in an "audition" or "tryout" for a college team only after you have completed your last season of eligibility in the sport for which you wish to tryout.
- 9. You may not compete in an all-star game or contest before you complete your eligibility in all high school sports.
- 10. Any individual receiving information concerning colleges for scholarship opportunities for our students/athletes will be distributed by the specific coaches.

A REMINDER: Any questions pertaining to eligibility that are not answered above should be brought to the attention of the activities director prior to participation in the event.

ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

According to MSHSAA By-Law 2.2.3,

- a. A student who violates a local school policy is ineligible until completion of the prescribed school penalties.
- b. The eligibility of a student who is serving detention or in-school suspension shall be determined by local school authorities.
- c. A student shall not be considered eligible while serving an out-of-school suspension.
- d. A student who is expelled or who withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal.
- e. If a student misses class(es) without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes.

- f. Each individual school has the authority to set more restrictive citizenship standards and shall have the authority and responsibility to judge its students under those standards.
- g. Each school shall diligently and completely investigate any issue that could affect student eligibility. (212.0-b)

In the event that a student is assigned an afternoon detention period as the result of a classroom problem, the detention **MUST** be served before the student can return to an extracurricular activity. He/she is not allowed to use the excuse of “I have practice, so I can’t stay.” **THE CLASSROOM OBLIGATION ALWAYS COMES FIRST.**

CITIZENSHIP GUIDELINES FOR EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

To be eligible to participate in school activities is a privilege, not an inherent right, and therefore requires certain behaviors and attitudes. More specifically, any student who represents his or her school in activities must be a credible citizen and be judged so by proper school authority certifying the list of students for participation.

A student whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon himself/herself or his/her school is not considered a creditable citizen. His/her conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline. Students, who participate in activities, athletics, or performing arts programs, should remember the rewards, recognition, and notoriety that comes with involvement, but also carries a high degree of school, civic, individual discipline, and responsibility.

The rewards are great! A student has much to gain, but also has much to lose for behavior which is inappropriate.

Besides the possibility of losing eligibility for inappropriate behavior, students involved in the extracurricular activities programs are also subject to the disciplinary consequences listed in the Student Handbook.

It is understood that citizenship eligibility cases are handled on an individual basis by the sponsor/coach/director/supervisor, principal, parents and student. However, it is also felt that system-wide guidelines will assist in the uniform handling of such cases.

Students should always remember to conduct themselves in such a manner as to reflect positively upon themselves, family, school and community.

To clearly outline and define the disciplinary action, the following guidelines are provided for students.

1. **Citizenship** - Students whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon themselves or their school is **NOT** considered a “credible citizen”. This includes violations of public law and/or school policy.

Violation Penalty - The student who is under arrest for a municipal ordinance violation, a misdemeanor or a felony will be suspended from a game/meet participation in extracurricular activities and remain ineligible until his/her judgment is satisfied according to public law and/or school policy. **This includes violations that take place during the season and/or non-season including evening and weekends.** School officials may deny participation in all extracurricular activities to a student convicted or found “not innocent” of a municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony.

***Reinstatement - Reinstatement to the activity/athletic team(s) may be granted after a review by the school administration and the sponsor/coach.**

MSHSAA By-Law 2.2.2

- a. Law Enforcement:** A student who commits an act for which charges may be or have been filed by law enforcement authorities under any municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony statute shall not be eligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. If law enforcement authorities determine that charges will not be filed, eligibility will be contingent upon local school policies. Minor moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol, accidents or injuries to others. After a student has completed all court appearances and penalties, and has satisfied all special conditions of probation and remains under general probation only, local school authorities shall determine eligibility.

MSHSAA By-Law 2.2.4

- a. Student Responsibility:** Each student is responsible to notify the school if any and all situations that would affect his/her eligibility under the above standards. If the student does not notify the school of the situation prior to the school's discovery, then the student shall be ineligible for up to 365 days from discovery, pending review by the MSHSAA Board of Directors.

1. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and/or illicit drug possession use, sale, and/or abuse. Students should not use, sell, abuse, or possess alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and/or illicit drugs.

- a. First Violation** Upon the **first violation** for tobacco, alcohol, and drugs the athlete will be suspended for 20 percent of the regular season games in the sport he/she is participating. Suspensions for the first violation will carryover from one school year to the next and from one season to the next. The athlete and parent/guardian must meet with the coach and athletic administrator before the athlete can return to participation.

- b. Second Violation**
Upon the **second violation**, the student athlete will be suspended for 50 percent of the regular season games in the sport he/she is participating. Suspensions for the second violation will carryover from year to the next and from one season to the next. The athlete and parent/guardian must meet with the coach and athletic administrator before the athlete can return to participation.

- c. Third Violation**
Upon the **third violation**, the student athlete will be suspended from participating in any sport or activity for a period extending for a full calendar year or beyond depending on a hearing by an Athletic Review Board consisting of the Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal.

***Repeated violations of any of the above may result in complete disassociation with any or all activity/athletic teams for the remainder of the student's high school career.**

STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY (EFFECTIVE JULY, 2005)

Purpose

Alcohol and drug abuse are serious problems. Schools, including Winfield R-IV School District, are not immune. Even students involved in athletics are increasingly using alcohol and are experimenting with “street drugs” such as marijuana and cocaine. Some students are also attracted to so-called performance enhancing drugs (such as steroids) in misguided efforts to increase their strength and endurance.

The educational program and drug-testing program described in these materials is part of an overall physical conditioning program at Winfield R-IV School District. The goal is not to levy discipline, but rather to aid in discovery and prevention of possible drug related problems. The key component of this program is opening the lines of communication between students and parents about the serious matter of drug usage and abuse.

A student using drugs is a danger to him or herself as well as other students. All students in the Winfield R-IV School District who choose to participate in extra-curricular activities, and those that choose to operate motor vehicles to school are entitled to do so in a drug free environment.

The program is mandatory to all students participating in extra-curricular activities and any student driving to and from school or school activities.

The program does not affect other policies and practices of the school in dealing with drug or alcohol use or possession where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the mandatory and random sampling discussed here. All students involved in extra-curricular activities may be tested beginning with the first day of participation in the school-sponsored program. Students will also be subject to random testing as prescribed below during the activity.

Procedures and Guidelines

The student shall take home the drug testing policy and have it signed by both the student and a parent/guardian. The policy and consent form contains the procedures for mandatory and random testing. It provides that the student must sign the consent form to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at Winfield High School. Students must also sign the consent form to be eligible to drive to and from school.

A student may refuse to be randomly tested, but if he/she chooses to do so, he/she will immediately be suspended from participating in extra-curricular activities and/or the privilege of driving to and from school for 365 days and until the student tests negative.

They will be assigned to the random pool for the duration of their participation in the drug testing program. For random testing, each student will be assigned a number that will be maintained in the school office. Students who wish to drop out of the drug pool must have their parent/guardian come to the school and meet with the Activities Director. The parent/guardian must sign a release form stating that they no longer wish to participate in the drug pool. Once a student is dropped from the drug pool they are no longer allowed back into the pool for the remainder of the academic year in which the

student withdrew. The student must also produce a negative test result to be admitted back into the pool.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The testing method to be administered will be urinalysis. Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while, at the same time, preventing falsification of testing. Upon receiving a notice from the administration that the student has been selected for a random drug test, the student will then go to an assigned area and wait until it is their turn to produce a specimen. The test administrator will give the student an empty specimen bottle. The bottle will have the student's number and date on it. The student will then be allowed to enter a restroom near the administrator's table and close the door to produce the urine sample. After the student produces the sample, the administrator shall date and initial the cross-reference list, establishing that the sample container has the proper number written on it. The student should witness his/hers to verify that it is their sample being sealed. The samples will then be sent for testing. The testing lab will not be given the names of any of the students. The students will only be identified by the provided reference numbers. The test results will remain confidential and will only be released to the student, his/her parents or guardian, and the approved school officials (Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Director & Head Coach or Sponsor.) In addition, the test results will not be used for student discipline and will not become part of the school record or communicated to any other party. All files regarding the participants in the program, as well as test results shall be kept strictly confidential and will be kept separate from the mandatory school files required for each student. Furthermore, if the student tests positive, the administration will not use or reveal a positive test result as a reason to search the student's locker, purse, backpack, or other area in which the student keeps his/her personal effects. Test results will not be turned over to the police or authorities without a court order and the administration will not disclose test results without a court order for purposes of a criminal investigation.

Verification of Sample

Testing procedures shall be conducted according to procedures designed to ensure integrity of specimens and the chain of custody of specimens. The initial urine sample will be split into two specimens. The first sample will be sent to the laboratory. If the first test is positive, the second test will be done immediately to verify results. If the second test is negative, no further action will be taken. If the second test is positive, the student and parent/guardian will be notified.

Disclosure of Other Medications

All currently available drug tests have the possibility of producing a "false positive." This means that if the student is taking any over-the-counter or prescription medications, the test may produce a positive reading. In addition, certain foods have been known to produce false positive results. However, students will not be asked about any medication they are on or possible foods that they may have eaten that could produce a positive result in the test prior to the test. Only if the initial test comes back positive will the student and his/her's parents be contacted about this possibility. If the student is on medication or has eaten a food that could produce a false positive result, then the student and his/her parent must provide information to the high school principal that would indicate the reason for the false positive result. The principal will then contact the test administrator

and give him the possible reason(s) for a false positive. The test administrator will then contact the laboratory to determine if that is indeed the case. Students and their parents may be asked to provide proof of any medication that the student may be on. This may be done through a prescription or doctor verification.

Consequences

Consequences for a positive test shall be a suspension from participation of extra-curricular activities for a period of Fourteen (14) calendar days from when the test results were determined. Student's driving privileges will be revoked until the student tests negative. The subsequent test by the student will be at the expense of the student and parent/guardian. This test must show a decrease in the level detected in the urine. This test must be administered within 45 days of the original positive test. The lab testing facility must be pre-approved by the school district and the test must include the substances tested for in the school provided program. The student may attend practice sessions, continue to attend team functions and sit with fellow participants during activities but may not participate. After the student tests positive for illegal substances, he or she will be subject to non-random testing at the request of the administration. The student may be tested in this manner for 365 calendar days beginning from the date of the first positive results. Testing procedures will remain identical to the random testing procedures. A second positive test during the school year, mandatory or random, will result in the student being ineligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities for 365 calendar days and until the student tests negative. A third positive result is permanent loss of extra-curricular activities for his/her high school career. Students who choose to drive to school are subject to all rules and regulations designated by the district drug testing policy.

Drug Counseling and Assistance

The main goal of this drug testing policy is to educate students regarding the serious problems of drug and alcohol abuse. As such, drug counseling and assistance programs will be required by the school district for any student testing positive under this policy. Failure to meet this requirement will result in dismissal from the activity for the remainder of the season or school year. In addition, the student will not be allowed to participate in any activity until this requirement has been met. If requested by the parent/guardian, assistance in obtaining help for the student will be provided by the school counselors. Any assistance otherwise or enrollment into any other drug counseling sessions will be exclusively the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian.

Drugs that Winfield School will be testing for:

Winfield School will be using a 4-panel Urine Drug Screen from Employee Screening Services, Inc. Marijuana (THC), Cocaine, Amphetamines, Opiates, will compose the 4-panel test. The student participants will be responsible for the initial drug screening (\$20.00) and the school district will pay for all random drug screenings.

DUE PROCESS AND APPEALS

Students will have the opportunity to express their side of any incident in which they may be involved. Parents or other appropriate representatives may be involved with students

during the due process hearings. The coach/sponsor, in consultation with the activities director and school administrator, may suspend a student from activities after having given him/her the right to be heard. The suspension decision may be appealed to the principal. The principal's decision will be final. The student and/or his/her parent/guardian may appeal actions taken pursuant to this policy.

The school administration will send a written decision to the parent/guardian within two days of the appeal hearing.

***Any incidents which occur that are not covered by these guidelines will be reviewed on an individual basis and decisions related to penalties will be made jointly by the school administration and sponsor.**

HAZING

Student hazing is expressly prohibited by Board of Education policy. For purpose of this policy, hazing is defined as willful conduct directed at another student, whether occurring on or off school property, for purposes of initiation or admission to any school-related activity or athletic team.

Students found to have violated this policy will be subject to suspension/expulsion from school and suspension/exclusion from activities/athletic participation depending on the severity of the misconduct per Board Policy.

Non-students who participate or enable the hazing of students may be excluded from attendance at school activities and school athletic events. District employees, including sponsors and coaches who have knowledge of school hazing, but fail to take corrective action will be subject to discipline up to and including termination of district employment. **If hazing occurs, coaches/sponsors must report the incident to school administration immediately.**

CONFLICTS BETWEEN ACTIVITIES

Students should make the best choices when participating in activities to avoid conflicts between activities. This involves good communication, decision-making skills, prioritizing, and long-range goals and aspirations. However, when a conflict arises between two school-sponsored activities, administrative priority will examine this order or precedence: (Ultimately, the decision will be made by the student with no repercussions)

1. National contest
2. State contest
3. District contest
4. Conference contest
5. Academic class
6. Interscholastic contest
7. Required (dress rehearsal) practices
8. Regular practices

CARE OF EQUIPMENT

In order to give athletes a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of their equipment, squad members are to be held accountable for the abuse or loss of it. The cooperation of

all coaches is solicited in seeing that players maintain proper care of all athletic equipment.

It is the responsibility of the head coach to see that players always put away and check in their equipment after games and practices.

Any equipment lost by an athlete must be paid for by the athlete.

Any loss of equipment should be immediately reported to the head coach, rather than waiting until the end of the season.

Coaches are to inform their players not to exchange any equipment (practice or game). If it is necessary to make an adjustment, then this is to be done through the coaches.

Coaches shall make clear to the members of their squads that any member of the coaching staff, teachers, principals, or the athletic director has the prerogative to command proper use of any school equipment and/or facilities at any time.

No students or athletes are to use the gyms, athletic areas, weight rooms, locker rooms, or showers unless supervised by a coach or faculty member.

ALL EQUIPMENT FROM A SPORT MUST BE TURNED IN AND/OR ALL EQUIPMENT DEBTS FROM A SPORT MUST BE PAID BEFORE AN ATHLETE WILL BE PERMITTED TO COMPETE OR PARTICIPATE IN ANOTHER SPORT OR ACTIVITY.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

An athletic award is a symbol of athletic accomplishment, good sportsmanship and observance of athletic policies. Student athletes, managers, trainers, and cheerleaders are eligible to earn awards. No student athlete may receive an award in a sport for which he/she is academically ineligible at the completion of the season or if under suspension for an athletic violation. Candidates must complete the season's play; however, this requirement may be waived in cases of physical injury. No awards will be issued to an athlete until all equipment for his/her sport is turned in to the coach.

TRANSPORTATION

All students will be transported to and from extra curricular activities using district transportation, unless prior arrangements have been made. Prior arrangements must be approved by the activities director and/or principal.

Students' will be allowed to ride home with their parents from contests provided they notify the head coach and sign his/her sign-out sheet. Parents will be allowed to transport another child home from competition only unless a written 24 hour notice has been given to the Activities Director or building principal concerning another student circumstances.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL STUDENTS BE ALLOWED TO TRANSPORT OTHER STUDENTS TO AND FROM EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES!

SUNDAY PRACTICE

Occasionally, a coach may have a practice on Sunday to prepare for a Monday contest. However, Sunday practice times will be scheduled late afternoon or early evening. We do however, expect the student/athlete to communicate with the head coach should he/she miss a practice.

CHANGING/QUITTING TEAMS

A student who is out for a sport but who does not finish the season in that sport will not be eligible to start practicing for another sport before the end of the competition in the sport that was dropped, unless the coaches of both sports and the athletic director give their consent.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

A display of unsportsmanlike conduct, the use of profanity, insubordination, or other behavior unbecoming an athlete during practice or contest will result in disciplinary action. The coach has the responsibility and the authority to take action that will result in what is best for the individual, the team, and the school. Disciplinary action may range from a verbal warning, counseling, or suspension. Dismissal from the team may result after the coach has made a recommendation to the athletic director and/or principal.

SUPERVISION POLICY

No individual student, team or activity group shall be permitted to participate in events without being accompanied and supervised by a representative of the school faculty or administrative staff. Activity sponsors are responsible for supervision of groups while on the bus traveling to and from events, while at the events, and until the students' rides arrive. Activity may not occur without school representative supervision. This includes but is not exclusive to: practices, meetings, performances, contests, and bus transportation.

Sponsorship includes the coach/sponsor riding the bus, accompanying the activity, and/or supervising any activity under the sponsorship of a particular department. Sponsorship may necessitate the coach/sponsor procuring assistance from within his/her own department and/or activity personnel. The activity sponsor has the responsibility to cover his/her events.

CONFERENCE AFFILIATION

The Winfield School District is a cooperating member of the Gateway Athletic Conference, and as a member, is committed to adhere to the rules and regulations of the association.

Presently there are 17 member schools divided into three divisions

GAC North Division: St. Charles, St. Charles West, Warrenton, Orchard Farms, Winfield, and Liberty

GAC Central Division: Fort Zumwalt North, Wentzville Holt, Fort Zumwalt East, Fort Zumwalt South, and Washington

GAC South Division: Fort Zumwalt West, Wentzville Timberland, Francis Howell, Francis Howell Central, Francis Howell North, and Troy

SPORTS BY SEASON

FALL SPORTS

Boy's Cross Country – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girl's Cross Country – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Football – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Girl's Volleyball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Softball – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boy's Soccer – Varsity, Junior Varsity

WINTER SPORTS

Boy's Basketball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Girl's Basketball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Wrestling – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Girl's Soccer – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Golf – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boy's Track – Varsity, Junior Varsity,
Girl's Track – Varsity, Junior Varsity,

EXTRACURRICULAR INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Academic Scholars Bowl – Varsity, Junior Varsity
Fall Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Winter Cheerleading – Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshmen
Dance Team – Varsity

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Art
Band-Concert, Marching, Pep
Choir
Distribution Education Club (DECA)
Drama
Flag Corps
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
Future Farmers of America (FFA)
Journalism and Publications
National Honor Society (NHS)
Speech
Student Council
Yearbook

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ALL-Sports Booster Club

FCA – Fellowship of Christian Athletes

FCCLA – Future Career and Community Leaders of America

Scholar Bowl Team

Senior Class

Junior Class

Sophomore Class

Freshmen Class

STUDENT PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Individual and team/group success in sports and activities results from commitment. The extent to which young people are able to make such commitments reflects their maturity as well as their dedication to family, friends, school and organization. Your coach/sponsor has made a similar commitment. You are asked to read and agree to the following pledge:

AS A STUDENT PARTICIPANT AT WINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL, I PROMISE.....

1. To be a worthy representative of my fellow participants and coaches/sponsors, abiding by school and community expectations and reflecting my program's values of commitment and hard work.
2. To maintain my physical and emotional well-being by following the rules described by the coach/sponsor.
3. To reflect the knowledge that a commitment to success is nothing without the commitment to hard work in practice.
4. To attend every practice or activity unless excused by the coach/sponsor.
5. To understand the merit and relationship of academics and participation.
6. To organize my time to satisfy family relationships and responsibilities.
7. To accept the responsibilities of program membership; cooperation, support of my peers, shared responsibilities, positive interaction, and mutual respect.
8. To represent myself, peers, faculty and administration, and the Winfield community in a fashion deserving respect and positive recognition.

COACH/SPONSOR PLEDGE

The Coach/Sponsor Pledge extends beyond knowledge of athletics and reaches into the life of each of their participants. Leading and guiding students is one of the most important responsibilities in the school and involves at least the same level of commitment that coaches/sponsors expect of their participants. Mutual respect and team membership are to be expected equally of participant and coach/sponsor and for the coach/sponsor, involve the following promises:

AS A COACH/SPONSOR AT WINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL, I PROMISE.....

1. To be a model of appropriate language and behavior.
2. To respect and dignify each of my participants as an individual.
3. To promote safety of each participant, to ask no more in practice or competition than each is capable of delivering.
4. To promote the conditions and circumstances that encourages each participant to realize their full potential.
5. To impose time demands that acknowledges the primary importance of each participants academic and family responsibilities
6. To promote among all participants and coach/sponsor a solid sense of team membership.
7. To reflect in my leadership the best and most recent thinking/strategy in my activity.
8. To assist, whenever appropriate and mutually convenient, with the post-high-school planning of my participants as related to their activities.
9. To be available to parents at times of mutual convenience.
10. To work, whenever appropriate, with other school personnel to ensure the best interests of my student participants.

THE PARENT'S PLEDGE

Cooperation among coaches/sponsors, participants, parents, and school personnel are essential to realize the values of extra-curricular participation. Like coaches/sponsors and participants, parents must make commitments to the activities program to assure such cooperation. We ask that you read the following pledge, as needed, discuss you reactions with your child's coach/sponsor and/or the activities director. Thank you for your support.

AS A PARENT OF A STUDENT PARTICPANT AT WINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL, I
PROMISE.....

1. To accompany my child to as many orientation and informational meetings offered by the athletic department as my schedule will permit.
2. To work closely with all school personnel to assure an appropriate academic as well as activity experience for my child while they are in high school.
3. To assure that my child will attend all scheduled practices and events.
4. To require my child to abide by the activities department's guidelines with consideration to behavior, substance abuse, academic eligibility, and others as outlined.
5. To acknowledge the ultimate authority of the coach/sponsor to determine roles and approaches to the activity of responsibility.
6. To promote mature behavior from students and parents during events.
7. To work cooperatively with other parents and school personnel to assure a wholesome and successful activities program for Winfield High School.
8. To work closely with coach/sponsors and other personnel to identify a reasonable and realistic future for my child as an activity participant.

PARENT/ATHLETE/COACH COMMUNICATION GUIDE

Our Philosophy

- Athletic achievement requires sincere commitment from all athletes, parents, coaches, and administrators. For all of us to be successful, effective communication must occur.
- The school athletic department and administration believe strongly in being accessible to parents and supportive of the coaching staff.
- We are continually attempting to improve communication with the students and parents. For our programs to be truly successful, it is necessary that everyone understand the focus and direction of the program.

Parent Expectations

- A. It is reasonable to expect your child's coach to inform you:
1. When and where practices and contests are held.
 2. About the expectations he/she has for all athletes on the squad as well as your individual child.
 3. What is required to be a part of the team, i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, lettering requirement, etc.
 4. If your child is injured during participation in a practice or contest.
 5. Whenever any disciplinary action results in your son/daughter being denied participation in a practice or contest.
- B. Typical concerns of parents that are **appropriate** to discuss with a coach are:
1. Any unhealthy mental or physical strain you detect in your child at home (especially when it affects his/her academic performance).
 2. How you can contribute to your child's skill improvement and development.
 3. Any dramatic changes you detect in your child's behavior.

Our Expectations

- A. It is **inappropriate** to discuss with a coach:
1. Playing time.
 2. Team strategy or play calling.
 3. Other student athletes
- B. Coaches often need parents to tell them:
1. Any specific health concerns about your son/daughter expressed directly and informally to the head coach in a mutually convenient time.
 2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

Our Expectations, continued

3. Your commitment to the program and how you plan to make a contribution to the program's success. For example, one way is to be sure your child gets enough rest and nutrition at home.
4. Strategies that have worked for you in dealing with your son/daughter being successful in the past.

C. If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, what procedure should you follow?

1. Make sure the athlete has met with the coach and discussed the issue.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the activities director to set up a meeting.
3. Make an appointment with the coach. NEVER attempt to confront a coach before, during, or following a contest or practice. These can be busy and emotional times for both parent and coach this period does not promote objective analysis of the situation.

D. What should you do if the meeting with the coach does not result in a resolution to the problem?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the activities director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the athletic handbook and have read the rules concerning eligibility and conduct for Winfield student athletes. I understand the rules and realize that I am subject to disciplinary measures should I violate them. I do agree to participate and conduct myself in accordance with the rules of our athletic program and with specific rules of my coaches.

We, the undersigned, agree that we have been given the following information and understand it fully.

- I. That the school agrees to provide:
 - A. Supervision
 - B. Instruction
 - C. Proper equipment (This excludes equipment or uniforms provided by the participant)
 - D. Proper safety precautions
- II. That the school abides by all written rules regarding behavior and safety.
- III. That participating in athletics may cause serious injury or death.

I have read the above statement of policy and agree to abide by the sportsmanship, citizenship/conduct, tobacco, alcohol and drug expectations. I understand that this agreement in no way limits my right to terminate or to be terminated from student activity participation.

_____	_____
STUDENT ATHLETE (Print Name)	DATE

_____	_____
SIGNATURE OF STUDENT ATHLETE	DATE

_____	_____
SIGNATURE OF PARENT	DATE