

***"Oakdale School's vision of success is to provide each student the opportunity to excel, to provide each educator the tools necessary to enable excellence, and to partner with our community to develop responsible citizens who have the ability to positively impact their world now and in the future."***

**I. Athletic Philosophy**

The vision of Oakdale's Athletic Program is to not only value participation and skill development of our students, but to also provide a safe, competitive environment that can teach life lessons and prepare our student athletes for higher level competition. Oakdale Athletics has helped create a sense of pride in our community and school building. The following policy is designed to be consistent with both ORES and OSSAA rules / regulations / procedures / intentions, while maintaining the concept that Oakdale is a unique local school district.

**II. General Procedures**

**Role of Athletic Director:**

- To provide administrative direction and oversight for all athletic programs and activities and supervise the control, issuance and maintenance of athletic equipment/uniforms
- To manage budget allocated for all athletic activities
- Schedule all athletic events
- To ensure that all student athletes have up to date physicals/forms each year
- To supervise the athletics coaching staff including responsibilities for hiring, disciplining or firing decisions, training, mentoring, and evaluating coaches and athletics staff
  - Oversight on background checks, stipend amounts
  - Oversight on holding coaches accountable for the coaches responsibilities as outlined in this policy
  - Ensuring that each sport has at least one coach with a school bus driving license
  - Athletic transportation issues

**Eligibility**

- The school policy concerning eligibility for extracurricular activities will be followed. The school principal will determine from student records eligibility for individual students. The athletic director will inform and enforce eligibility with coaches and athletes.

**Transportation**

- Athletic events will have district provided transportation whenever possible as dictated by drivers and buses available.
- Every effort will be made to provide school transportation.
- Scheduling of athletic events will be done with transportation issues in mind to avoid as many conflicts as possible and maximize school transportation resources.
- Disciplinary policies for classrooms, bus routes, and field trips will apply for transportation to and from all athletic events.

## **Teams**

- All sport teams will be grouped by ability and selected from 6-8 grades. The coaches and athletic director will work together on grouping the athletes and placing them on the appropriate team based on skill levels if that sport has multiple teams throughout the season.
- When all skill factors are considered equal by coaches in filling rosters, coaches will strive to select upper class participants over younger students.
- The actual number of teams may vary each season depending upon the numbers of students who wish to participate in a particular sport.
- Each sport has set a minimum number of students necessary for a roster and to warrant an additional team. This number is decided upon by the Athletic Director and coaching staff.
- Any sport may have more than one JV team but there will be only one JV schedule. Even if coaches choose to include more than one JV team the athletic director will not schedule more contests to accommodate the extra team.
- Playing Time/ Competition Time: While it is true that our coaches and administration believe it is important to broaden the experience of Oakdale student athletes, and that broadening is enhanced by playing time, it is also an important goal of the Oakdale athletic program to strive toward excellence. Therefore, there is no minimum playing time provisions or minimum numbers of athletic competition or games in which athletes must be able to compete. Playing time decisions are left up to the individual coaches, but providing meaningful playing time is encouraged, especially with sport that have more than one team.
- No Practice – No Play: This is in place for two reasons. If an student athlete is gone during the day for sickness or any other reason which would warrant them from attending school they will not be allowed to participate in games. This holds true for practices as well. Secondly, when multiple sports are offered and choices are difficult to make, a student athlete cannot just come to the competition but must practice with the team also.
- Purpose of Teams
  - JV – Developmental
    - 6<sup>th</sup> Play Up
    - 8<sup>th</sup> Cannot Play Down
  - Varsity - Competition

## **Coaches**

- The athletic director will be considered a coach for each team.
- Coaches will be paid by Oakdale School. There will be lay coaches in some instances but even the lay coaches will be given a stipend by the district and considered employees.
- All coaches will be required to have a class in Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries
- All coaches will be required to have an approved course in Cardiac Arrest
- All coaches will be required to have an approved course in the management of athletic concussions.
- All coaches will be required to have employee background checks.
- All coaches will dress appropriately for the sport they coach. Each coach will be provided school attire and they will be expected to represent Oakdale professionally.

## **New Sports Development Rubric**

- ORES Competition
- Co-Ed
- Participation
- Finances
- Coaches Available
- Scheduling
- Alternatives
- Community

## Spring Sports Participation

- Ten Day Activity Rule
- AD / Coach Approval

## Current Specific Sports

Each sport will have team rules that are dependent upon the particular sporting circumstances and the individual coach. The coaches and the athletic director will have a great deal of latitude in determining how to fit into the parameters of the policy.

- a. Football
  - i. No Cuts
  - ii. No Team Limits
  
- b. Volleyball
  - i. Cuts / Coaches Decision
    1. Varsity Maximum of 15
    2. JV Maximum of 15
  
- c. Cross Country
  - i. One Team
  - ii. No Cuts
  - iii. No Team Limits
  
- d. Basketball
  - i. Cuts / Coaches Decision
    1. Varsity Maximum 15
      - a. 6-8 Eligible
    2. JV Maximum 10
      - a. 6-7 Eligible
  
- e. Track
  - i. Cuts / Times - Distance
  
- f. Golf
  - i. One Team
  - ii. Determined by outside factors
  - iii. Cuts / Scores
  
- g. Tennis
  - i. Determined by outside factors
  - ii. Cuts determined by scores
  
- h. Other
  - i. Rowing – new
  - ii. Archery - new