

ACTIVITIES CODE POLICY	
Date Approved: 7/25/16	Date Revised: 5/18/98, 6/19/00, 11/13/00, 4/18/05, 7/16/06, 5/19/08, 11/21/11 (effective January 31, 2112), 7/16/12, 7/22/13, 6/27/16

This policy was developed to give students, parents and administration a full understanding of the guidelines for participation in athletic and co-curricular activities in the Birchwood School District.

It is a well documented fact that students who participate in co/extra-curricular activities do better in the classroom. In addition, these activities teach commitment, teamwork, cooperation and a work ethic that is valuable throughout life's endeavors. The Birchwood School District is committed to offering a wide variety of athletic and co-curricular activities with a desire that all students will choose to participate in one or more of these activities.

It is the philosophy of this school that: "It is a privilege to be able to participate in co/extra-curricular activities." By definition, a privilege is a "special right" and therefore, since it is special, it follows that special responsibilities are then placed upon those who wish to accept this privilege.

If a young man or woman is serious about accepting the privilege of participating in co/extra-curricular activities, he or she must be willing to accept the following policies and obligations. On an annual basis students and a parent/guardian must attend an informational meeting designed to review and distribute the Birchwood School District Activities Code. An abbreviated, user-friendlier version of this policy will be made available at the informational meeting.

Definition

Co/extra-curricular activities are those voluntary activities that are school related. They act as an extension of the classroom and serve to enhance the motivation and experience of students. They are an integral and valuable part of the middle and high school student experience.

All students who participate in athletics and co-curricular activities are required to abide by the Activities Code. For the purpose of this code, these activities include *any future ones established by the School*, but are not limited to the following:

Athletics

Baseball
Basketball
Cheerleading
Football
Golf
Softball
Volleyball

Co-Curricular Activity

Band (e.g. All Conference, State, etc.)
Choir (e.g. All Conference, State, etc.)
Class Officer
Drama
Forensics
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
Future Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
High Mileage Vehicle
Homecoming Court*
Managers/Statistics/Video
Prom Court*
Student Council
Educational Foundation of Birchwood Representative

NOTE: *Students that have not satisfied code violations will not be considered for court participation.

I. TRAINING RULES VIOLATIONS: (Both Athletic and Co-Curricular)

No student may use or possess, distribute or make available alcoholic beverages, illegal substances/paraphernalia, chewing tobacco, prescription drugs of others, performance enhancing drugs, look-alike drugs, substances used in lieu of an illegal drug (e.g. inhalants) or smoking tobacco at any time during the student's activity or between successive activities in which the student participates, whether school is in session or not. This includes times that the student's parents are present and the parent(s) agrees to allow the consumption or use of the substance.

School Philosophy

The philosophy of the school is that students adhere to the training rules for the following health reasons:

- A. Coaches/Advisors are concerned about student mental, physical and emotional health which may be affected by violation of some training rules
- B. Drugs are illegal for everyone, alcohol is illegal for those under 21 years of age, and we expect our students to be law-abiding citizens.
- C. Students are expected to stay clear of, or leave, an activity during which alcohol or drugs are illegally used.

Violations of this Code that occur at or during school sponsored activities are also subject to other School District policies dealing with "discipline".

Reporting of Violations (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

All violations shall be reported to a school official within 14 calendar days of the incident. Any community person, adult, or student may report a rules violation.

The reporting time for training rule violations that involve civil violations or a conviction shall commence from the time the principal or Athletic Director became aware of the incident.

If a student should fabricate a lie about another student in regard to a code violation, then the student lying shall receive the punishment that the accused person would have received. A student not participating in athletics or co-curricular activities who fabricates shall be disciplined in a manner deemed appropriate by the principal.

During the course of the Athletic Director investigating a report of a violation and interviewing students who are covered by this policy they are expected to be cooperative and truthful. Failure to disclose information, hindering an investigation or interfering with an investigation may also result in disciplinary action as determined by the Athletic Director – typically at Level 1, but may be at the same level of consequences as for the matter under investigation.

Procedures In Handling Discipline: (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

- A. The Athletic Director will investigate the alleged violation(s) and take action on the infraction, if needed, by imposing a suspension.
- B. The Athletic Director shall inform the parents of the student involved in the infraction that a violation against the Birchwood Activities Code has occurred. A formal letter will be sent

specifying the nature of the infraction and the disciplinary consequence. The parents will be given the opportunity to appeal this decision.

Disciplinary Action (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

If students cannot accept these policies and obligations, the privilege of participating in co/extra-curricular will be denied. Violations of the training rules will be dealt with in the procedures set below by the Athletic Director.

Rules Violation Levels

Training rules violations shall be classified by the following levels:

Level 1:

consumption or possession of alcohol or tobacco, e-cigarettes, e-cigarette paraphernalia and related substances (including unlabeled containers believed to be used in e-cigarettes) and any other look-alikes for tobacco, alcohol or other illegal substances (Athletic Director shall have considerable discretion in determining look-alikes, and may use a simple warning for first-time occurrences).

Level 2:

distributing (making available to others, having in a vehicle for which one is responsible, or "hosting" of a party) of alcohol,

possession or use of illegal substances/paraphernalia including marijuana, look-alikes, inhalants, wrong prescriptions, performance enhancing drugs, or other similar substances

Cyber-narcking per definition found later in Code

Failing a School Board required drug screen under a Conditional Reinstatement as part of an Expulsion Order.

Level 3:

distributing (making available to others, having in vehicle one is responsible for, or "hosting" of a party) of illegal substances/paraphernalia including marijuana, look-alikes, inhalants, wrong prescriptions, performance enhancing drugs, or other similar substances.

Disciplinary Consequences (Athletics Only)

Level 1 - 1ST OFFENSE: Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Suspension from 1/3 of the season
2. If on first offense the athlete admits to offense when first questioned by the Athletic Director, disciplinary action (length of suspension and amount of community service) will be cut in half
3. If suspension is not completed during present season, it will carry over into the next athletic season
4. Student will participate in a minimum of 1 counseling session with parent(s) or guardian present. This counseling session may be arranged with a school counselor, or the parent(s) may arrange it with an outside agency or counselor. This session must be arranged, but need

not be completed prior to reinstatement. If appointment is skipped, immediate suspension occurs until completed

5. The student must perform 10 hours of community service. Community services will be free of charge and MUST be completed before the athlete returns to competition
6. Student MUST practice with the team during this time

Level 1 - 2ND OFFENSE, Level 2 - 1st OFFENSE: Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Suspension from 1/2 of the season if incident is more than one year from first reported incident. If incident is within 1 calendar year, suspension is for one *calendar year*.
2. If suspension is not completed during the present season, it will carry over into the next athletic season
3. Referral to a certified drug counselor and participation in a chemical dependency assessment.
4. 15 hours of community service
5. Athlete MUST practice with the team during this time, *if suspension is for 1/2 season*
6. Random drug/alcohol testing upon return to athletic participation for one calendar year
7. Counseling sessions with school or private counselor and monitoring of behavior, as deemed appropriate by the school counselor.

Level 1 - 3RD OFFENSE, Level 2 - 2nd OFFENSE: Level 3 - 1st OFFENSE: Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Suspension from athletics for 1 calendar year
2. Referral to a certified drug counselor or appropriate action
3. Must participate in all practices for the remainder of the present sporting season to maintain eligibility for that sport.
4. Counseling sessions with school or private counselor and monitoring of behavior, as deemed appropriate by the school counselor.
5. Random drug/alcohol testing upon return to athletic participation for one calendar year
6. 20 hours of community service.

Level 1 - 4th OFFENSE, Level 2 - 3rd OFFENSE, LEVEL 3 - 2nd OFFENSE

1. Suspension for remainder of high school career
2. A student may apply for reinstatement by Athletic Council, with conditions established by the Athletic Council

NOTE: Parents shall be financially responsible for expenses incurred when working with a certified drug counselor, or when they choose to utilize a private counselor in lieu of a school counselor. The School District shall be responsible for payment of drug screening expenses.

Once a consequence has been determined for an Activities Code Violation, all subsequent violations shall be considered at the next Level of Violation, regardless of the offense.

Known Activities Code violations that take place prior to signing of this document by a student and parent(s) and participation in a sport, shall be dealt with by the Athletic Director on an individual basis.

No Quit Policy (Athletes Only)

Students (Juniors and Seniors) will not be able to “purge” or avoid a consequence by participating in only part of a sport’s season. The Athletic Director shall have discretionary authority to make decisions in this area.

Disciplinary Consequences (Co-curricular Activities Only)

Level 1 - 1ST OFFENSE: Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Removal of the student from participation in co-curricular activities for a period of 30 school days.
2. If on first offense the student admits to offense when first questioned by the Athletic Director, disciplinary action (length of suspension and amount of community service) will be cut in half.
3. If suspension is not completed during present activity, it will carry over into the next activity.
4. Student will participate in a minimum of 1 counseling session with parents present. This counseling session may be arranged with a school counselor, or the parent(s) may arrange it with an outside agency or counselor. This session must be arranged, but need not be completed prior to reinstatement. If appointment is skipped, immediate suspension occurs until completed.
5. The student must perform 10 hours of community service. Community services will be free of charge and MUST be completed before the student returns to the activity.

Level 1 - 2ND OFFENSE, Level 2 - 1ST OFFENSE: Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Removal of the student from participation in co-curricular activities for a period of 60 school days. If suspension is not completed during the present activity, it will carry over into the next activity.
2. Referral to a certified drug counselor and participation in a chemical dependency assessment.
3. 15 hours of community service.
4. Random drug/alcohol testing upon return to participation for one calendar year.
5. Counseling sessions with school or private counselor and monitoring of behavior, as deemed appropriate by the school counselor.

Level 1 - 3RD OFFENSE, Level 2 - 2ND OFFENSE: Level 3 - 1ST OFFENSE & Any Additional Offenses:

Disciplinary action will be as follows:

1. Removal of the student from all co-curricular activities for 1 calendar year (12 months from the day of suspension).
2. Referral to a certified drug counselor or appropriate action
3. Counseling sessions with school or private counselor and monitoring of behavior, as deemed appropriate by the school counselor.
4. 20 hours of community service.
5. Random drug/alcohol testing upon return to participation for one calendar year.

Level 1 - 4TH OFFENSE, Level 2 - 3RD OFFENSE, LEVEL 3 - 2ND OFFENSE

1. Suspension for remainder of high school career
2. A student may apply for reinstatement by Athletic Council, with conditions established by the Athletic Council

NOTE: Parents shall be financially responsible for expenses incurred when working with a certified drug counselor, or when they choose to utilize a private counselor in lieu of a school counselor. The School District shall be responsible for payment of drug screening expenses.

Once a consequence has been determined for an Activities Code violation, all subsequent violations shall be considered at the next Level of Violation, regardless of the offense.

Known Activities Code violations that take place prior to signing of this document by a student and parent(s) and participation in a sport, shall be dealt with by the Athletic Director on an individual basis.

No Quit Policy (Co-Curricular Only)

Students (Juniors and Seniors) will not be able to “purge” or avoid a consequence by participating in only part of a co-curricular activity. The Athletic Director shall have discretionary authority to make decisions in this area.

Leadership Positions (Co-Curricular Activities Only)

Any student who violates the I. Training Rules and/or V. Student Behavior sections of this policy must relinquish any and all leadership positions that he/she presently holds. This provision will be in effect for at least the remainder of the school year and until the disciplinary consequence has been completed. A student serving a consequence cannot be nominated for an elected position.

II. TRANSFER STUDENT & FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT ELIGIBILITY (Athletics Only)

1. Transfer students require special review by the athletic director.
2. All transfer students will initially be considered ineligible until the athletic director has declared the student meets school and WIAA requirements. Transfer students must provide the athletic director an eligibility sheet from their transferring school.

Information Taken From WIAA Regulations:

- Student athletic eligibility, for all levels of competition, is governed by WIAA rules.
- Transfer students require special review by the athletic director.
- We advise that all transfer students initially be considered ineligible until the athletic director has declared the student meets school and WIAA requirements.
- For purpose of this rule attendance at one day of school and/or one athletic practice determines ‘beginning of school year.’ A student who transfers after the beginning of the school year will be ineligible for varsity competition at the new school unless a waiver is granted by the WIAA Board of Control.

APPLIES TO ALL SCHOOLS - PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC

A student who transfers from any school into a member school, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parents, must do so before attending one or more days of school or one or

more athletic practices at the school the student is leaving. If not, the student is ineligible for varsity level competition for the remainder of that school year.

With written consent from administrators of both schools directly involved, a first time transfer student shall be eligible for non-varsity competition only for the duration of the school year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the Senior High Handbook.

A student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that school year.

A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.

No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A student who transfers with an unserved code of conduct suspension must serve the suspension, as decreed by the previous school, at the new school.

RESIDENCE - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A student, regardless of age, is eligible for varsity competition only in the district in which both parents reside in their primary residence. A secondary residence does not meet WIAA requirements. There are some considerations for divorced families, social services placement, tuition-paying students, home life betterment, or extenuating circumstances, but these must be cleared through the WIAA.

A student who attends a school outside their parents' residence boundaries under the state mandated open enrollment provision is eligible, from a residence standpoint. However, if this student transfers back to the school of residence, after attending one athletic practice and/or one day of school at the selected school he/she is ineligible for varsity competition for the remainder of that school year.

A full time student whose residence in a district does not conform with requirements for varsity eligibility may only compete at the non-varsity level for the duration of the school year.

9TH GRADE STUDENTS

A first-time 9th grade student will be permitted one transfer upon appropriate petition to the Board of Control if the student has attended no more than three days of practice and/or has attended no more than three days of school. A transfer after three days will result in a student being ineligible for varsity competition unless a waiver is provided.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Foreign students attending a member school through CSIET - "Full" approved programs may receive one year of athletic eligibility if approved by the WIAA. Foreign students at residential schools are eligible if approved by the WIAA.

Directly placed exchange students and foreign students attending member schools through non-CSIET approved programs will be limited to non-varsity competition.

Foreign students who transfer from one school to another must initially be considered ineligible the same as any other transfer student.

III. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

All Athletic and Co-Curricular participants will have their grades monitored weekly by the Guidance Counselor and/or Athletic Counselor. Students who do not meet criteria set by the Athletic Director may be required to participate in After School Study Sessions.

To become eligible or maintain eligibility, student must have passed all classes of the most recent quarter.

If an incomplete is recorded, the student is ineligible until it is replaced with a passing grade. An exception may be made by the principal/AD in the case of an excused absence.

End of Quarter Grades:

A failing end of quarter grade by the student requires:

Suspension from contests for two weeks and at least 1 game.

Suspension due to failing grades begins on the date the report card grades are released to the parent or student.

A failing grade during 4th quarter will carry over to the next school year. However, a student may enroll in summer school, completing twice the number of credits failed during fourth quarter – and upon passing those summer credits may be eligible to participate in extra and co-curricular activities in the fall. The participant would be subject to weekly grade sheet requirements through first quarter. If a student chooses the summer school option, any courses taken must be approved by the Administration in advance. In addition to summer school courses offered by Birchwood School, the student may enroll in other courses through Community Education Program. Payment for Community Education courses are the responsibility of the student.

Mid-Quarter Grades:

- A failing mid-quarter grade will result in the student being on probation for two weeks, during which time he/she must complete weekly grade report sheets as described above, and may be required to attend after-school study sessions. If a failing grade is not raised at the end of two weeks, the student shall be declared ineligible for the remainder of the quarter.
- For Post-Secondary Education (PSEO Youth Options) in-progress grades for semester courses, a failing grade shall be treated as a mid-quarter grade.

Incomplete Grades:

- Unless a failing grade is posted by the teacher within 3 school days after the work is turned in, the student will be considered to be passing and eligible. Teachers may post grades sooner than 3 school days after receipt of required work.
- In the event that a failing grade is posted after the 3 day period, the athlete must fulfill the requirements for a failing grade at mid-quarter.

IV. ACTIVITY DAY & POST GAME DAY ATTENDANCE: (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

To participate at an event, attendance in school at least the entire half day after lunch on a game day is required unless the absence is excused by the coach/advisor, Athletic Director or Principal PRIOR to the absence. (Reasons for absence may include an emergency, serious illness, or death in the family.) Students are expected to be in school the full day following a contest.

Any unexcused absences the day following a contest prohibits the student from participating in the next contest of the season in which the violation occurred. Patterns of "Excused" absences after a game will be monitored and an excess of these may result in ineligibility.

V. STUDENT BEHAVIOR: (Both Athletics and Co-curricular)

The following are considered to be minor *in-season* infractions against the Activities Code Policy and the disciplinary action for each is listed below.

- Inappropriate language and/or behavior in practice, on the bus or in school at any time.
- Lack of respect towards teachers, students, coaches, officials and teammates.
- Suspension from school for two or more days, excessive in-school suspensions or tardies.
- Poor sportsmanship while at activity events, either as a participant or spectator.
- Unexcused absences, excessive tardiness and other behaviors leading to detention or suspension, under the School District's general student rules of conduct, may result in discipline up to and including game suspension.
- Bus Transportation - All students are expected to use district provided transportation, to and from all events. Exceptions may be made when a written request is presented, signed by a parent, is presented and approved by the administration in advance of leaving for a contest (e.g. must be an adult or other relative – not an older brother/sister). A year long permission form may be filed with the ATHLETIC DIRECTOR that allows a parent to transport a son/daughter home by simply giving the coach/advisor a note the afternoon/evening of the event. Permission can only be granted for a student to be transported with a parent or legal guardian. Students shall not be transported by other adults, relatives, or friends who are not legal guardians.

Discipline For Inappropriate Student Behavior: (Both Athletics and Co-curricular)

- The first violation will be discussed with the student concerning this rule. In the case of poor sportsmanship exclusions from spectating at future events may occur.
- The second violation will result in a 1 game suspension.

- C. The third violation will be dealt with as a LEVEL 1 training rule violation, except no counseling session will be required. No reduction will be given for admitting of guilt as listed in 1st offense.

Some discretionary authority rests with the Athletic Director for minor infractions listed above.

Civil Violations: (Both Athletic and Co-Curricular)

Types:

1. Felonies (described by a court of law)
2. Misdemeanors (described by a court of law)

Discipline For Civil Violations

Discipline for a civil offense will be according to the training rule violations. All violations shall be reported to a school official within 14 calendar days of the incident. Any community person, adult, or student may report a rules violation. The reporting time for civil violations that involve a conviction shall commence from the time the principal or athletic director became aware of the incident. The Athletic Director has authority to rule on felonies and misdemeanors not covered specifically by this policy.

If a major incident occurs on school property, immediate action will take place and a referral will be made to the School Board. All civil offenses occurring at school, including fighting, may also involve actions covered under the school district's Student Discipline policies and procedures.

Cyber-Narcking

For the purposes of this Code, a Cyber-narcking violation shall occur when ANY of the following occurs:

- 1) If a student posts a picture of another student (from Birchwood or from another school) violating the code (or appearing to violate the code) without first reporting the incident to the Athletic Director, the student doing the posting is also subject to sanctions.
- 2) If a student posts a picture of another student that is altered in any way so it appears that a violation is occurring shall be subject to sanctions in a manner befitting the supposed violation.
- 3) If a student posts a picture of himself/herself and it is uncertain as to whether a violation occurred the student shall remove the image within 24 hours of being directed to do so.
- 4) If a student posts an altered image of himself/herself such that the altering, if it were a true event would be a violation of the code, that student shall be subject to sanctions.

Timelines for handling all the above begin with the day that the Athletic Director or Administration is aware of the posting.

Random Drug Screening

The School Board may implement a random drug/alcohol screening program for students covered by the Activities Code. For the purposes of this policy random shall mean the random drawing of student names who are currently participating in an athletic or co-curricular activity.

VI. MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATION: (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

Middle School students will adhere to the Activities Code policy. All violations will be handled according to the policy training rules.

Upon entering high school, students having training rule violations while in middle school will have a one (1) calendar year probationary period (August 1st to July 30th).

If a violation takes place during the probationary year, the Athletic Director will rule on the student's eligibility.

If no violation occurs the student will be given a "clean slate."

VII. CARE OF EQUIPMENT (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

1. The care and maintenance of equipment and school property (including school lockers) will be the responsibility of the students and the school district.
2. Students are responsible for turning in any borrowed equipment when the activity concludes for the year.
3. Individual awards may be withheld if equipment is not turned in on time.
4. Students will not be issued equipment in the next activity they participate in until all equipment is turned in or paid for.
5. Lost and/or damaged items must be paid for by the student.

VIII. APPEAL PROCEDURE:

If the athlete and/or parents or guardians are not in agreement with the disciplinary action taken, the appeal procedure, which is shown on the following pages, will be followed:

PROCEDURE OF DUE PROCESS:

"Due process" is a procedure, which the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. "Due process" furthermore, and of primary importance, recognizes the rights of the individual since it outlines one's recourse in the event one feels a wrong decision has been made. The "due process" steps outlined hereafter is the procedure for a student and his/her parents to follow in appealing decisions relating to violation status and disciplinary consequence. It should be understood that students and parents will be expected to follow the "due process" steps in the event legal action should be initiated at some later date.

Step 1 - Appeal to Athletic Council

1. After a ruling of ineligibility resulting in suspension from athletics/co-curricular activity has been made, a student and/or his/her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the Athletic Director provided an appeal is received within 7 school days from date of the

Athletic Director's decision of ineligibility. During summer vacation, the timeline will be 10 calendar days, including weekends.

2. After an appeal has been received a date for a hearing with the Athletic Council will be established by the Athletic Director, such date shall be no later than seven school or working days (when suspension is for a sport for which the athlete is currently participating) after receipt of the written appeal from the student and his/her parents. The Athletic Council shall consider the Athletic Director's investigation of the alleged violation(s), hear from eye-witnesses, and hear testimony by the student and/or parent(s). Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the student and his/her parents.
3. The Athletic Council consists of all Head Varsity Coaches and the advisor(s) of the co-curricular activity (activities) that the student participates in. In the absence of a Head Coach, an Assistant Coach may participate. Where individuals coach multiple sports, an individual may cast only 1 vote. The Athletic Director, if also serving as a coach, may NOT cast a vote.

Step 2 - Appeal to School Board

1. If the student and his/her parents are not satisfied with the finding of the hearing, a second appeal may be requested before the School Board. The Athletic Director must receive in writing a request for a third hearing before the School Board of Education within 7 school/working days of the mailing of the outcome of the Principal's hearing. The appeal shall consider the written record of the Athletic Council's hearing and witnesses who participated in the Step 1 Appeal: any "new" information or eyewitness accounts shall only be reconsidered by the Athletic Council. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the student and his/her parents.
2. The athlete has the right to counsel at the hearing on the appeal.

IX. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

1. Each student will be required to have on file a statement signed by the student and his/her parents stating they have read, and understand and are prepared to abide by the regulations set forth in the Activities Code Policy.
2. Any student not having such a statement of file will be ineligible for participation until such time a statement is duly signed and filed.
3. This statement will be effective for one calendar year. Therefore, each year students must resubmit a signed statement of agreement to comply.
4. Additional eligibility requirements as per attached W.I.A.A. regulations.

W.I.A.A. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS¹

¹ *WIAA requirements may change from time to time and it is the responsibility of parents and athletes to be in compliance with these changes. On an annual basis the Athletic Director will provide an official WIAA handout regarding eligibility.*

YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE:

1. If you reach nineteen (19) years of age prior to August 1st.
2. If you have attended more than eight (8) semesters after entering grade 9, or if your seventh and eighth semester do not follow consecutively.
3. If you have participated in any sport for all, or part of, four seasons.
4. If you and your parents do not live in the school district in which you attend school unless you have served one year of ineligibility or unless your residence situation has been approved by the W.I.A.A. office.
5. If you do not have on file in your school evidence of both having passed a physical examination administered by a licensed physician and having received parental permission to participate in sports.
6. If you do not follow the code of conduct established by your school.
7. If you have violated your status as an amateur athlete by (a) accepting any amount of money or any kind of usable merchandise, (b) signing a contract for your services as an athlete, (c) permitting your name, picture or personal appearance to be used for promoting anything or (d) playing under another name.
8. If at any time you have received an award of merchandise value such as a jacket, watch, billfold, sweater, etc., in recognition of your talent or accomplishment as an athlete.
9. If you participate in a contest other than your official inter-scholastic school team while you are a member of that school team and during the entire school season (start of practice to end of season) for that sport.
10. If you have played in an all-star contest or similar activity involving participants from more than a given league.
11. If you participate in any program outside your school which can be considered by anyone as resembling a school team practicing or competing outside of the designated school season for that sport.
12. If you let anyone besides your parents pay a fee for specialized training, like a summer camp, or if you are instructed by your school coach outside the season of a sport (except baseball, track, swimming, golf or tennis in the summer). or if you are on the game non-school team in a team sport with more than one other student who likely will be on the game school team as you are in the following season.
13. A student in grades 7-12 not doing passing work in a minimum of 20 hours of work in the latest grade reporting or academic/evaluation period shall be ineligible until again doing passing work in at least 20 hours of work but not for less than three weeks (15 consecutive scheduled school days and nights).

X. Parent Participation in Lieu of Participation Fee (Athletics Only)

While some schools have Participation Fees for middle and high school student athletes, it is the philosophy of Birchwood School to avoid the collection of Participation Fees. At the same time there is a tremendous need for parents/adult family members to help out at sporting events.

In an effort to have greater levels of adult volunteers at sporting events, the Booster Club on an annual basis shall coordinate and establish a volunteer schedule, specifying the number of events that parent volunteer help will be required for each student athlete to obtain. Volunteer assignments include work such as ticket taking, concession stand workers, field/court preparation & clean-up, game clock, line judges, etc.

Any adult connected with a student-athlete may fulfill these hours. In lieu of volunteer hours the Booster Club shall establish a per sport fee for those students who are not able to meet the volunteer hour amount. On an annual basis the Booster will present to the Policy Committee or School Board the requirements for adult volunteers.

Parents who fail to meet this requirement may make-up the hours of volunteer with approval of the Booster Club. If hours are not made up by the end of the first quarter of the next school year, the School District will bill the parent. This bill must be paid prior to graduation and any extended field trips.

XI. Parental Behavior (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

Parents play an important role in supporting students who are involved in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Many of life's greatest lessons are learned through participation in these events and activities.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in athletics are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. To this end we ask that parents agree to the following:

1. To refrain from coaching one's child or other players during contests and practices.
2. To respect the officials and their authority during contests and not to question, discuss or confront coaches at the contest field..
3. To remember that student participants participate to have fun and that the contest is for youth, not adults.
4. To teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a contest or his or her performance.
6. To demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
7. To promote the emotional and physical well being of the student athletes ahead of any personal desire one may have for his/her own child to win.
8. To not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the student athletes.
9. To be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all student participants, coaches, officials, and spectators at every contest, practice or sporting event.
10. To not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
11. To support the contents of the Activities Code especially as it relates to maintaining good grades, school attendance and behavior.
12. To support an alcohol/chemical free lifestyle for students.

REF: Drug Free Policy
Discipline Policies