

## **Athletic/Activity Eligibility and Participation in OSAA/Middle School Programs**

Representing a school as part of an OSAA athletic/activity program is a privilege that has defined responsibilities for the student-athlete.

An athlete is defined as a student, who is a member of an inter-scholastic team, grades 6 through 12. Activity participants are defined as participants in school-sponsored groups that represent the school publicly or in competition with other schools.

A student participant will present him/herself or conduct him/herself in a manner that will not bring discredit upon him/herself, the student group or team he/she represents, or their school.

That all athletic/activity participants will strive continually to improve themselves by attaining standards higher than those asked of the general student.

Each school shall be expected to:

Conduct an academic review of all student participants before participation and at least once during the fall, winter and spring.

Identify and administer established plan of action for student participants who are not performing to expected standards.

### **A. STANDARDS FOR ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

All students participating in an athletic/activity must have paid their participation fee or made arrangements with the principal to pay the required fee(s) prior to the first contest.

#### **1. Before First Practice**

All student participants in interscholastic athletics must have on file in the school office the following:

- a) Certificate of physical health signed by a certified medical or health professional;
- b) Parent consent letter signed;
- c) Copy of the athletic and extracurricular participation form signed by the student and the parent or guardian;
- d) Student emergency medical information; high school athletic-extra curricular physical/medical history form on file in the school office;

#### **2. Training and Conditioning**

Each athlete shall have an appropriate period of training and physical conditioning prior to engaging in a contest. A minimum of nine (9) days of actual field practice is required for high school students before they can participate in an interscholastic football contest.

3. Tobacco, Alcohol or Drugs

A student-athlete who gives evidence of possessing, distributing, selling, or using alcohol, a drug or controlled substance, or a "look-alike" without medical or legal supervision, or using any form of tobacco or "tobacco look alike" will be subject to the following actions:

  - 1) First Offense: Suspension for seven (7) school days with an expulsion recommendation pending. If an approved third party assessment is completed, at their expense, and made available to the administrator within the suspension period, the student may be readmitted after the seven (7) school days. The results of the evaluation and/or treatment, if required, must be submitted to the principal for consideration. The student/parent must agree to fulfill the recommendations of the evaluator and submit necessary reports to the principal. If this is not done, expulsion will be recommended. If the assessment is not completed within the suspension period, expulsion will be recommended. In the case of "look-alike" controlled substances or alcohol, a student may be suspended for up to seven (7) school days. Students suspended for tobacco use will be required to enroll, at their expense, in a tobacco cessation program.
  - 2) Second Offense: Suspension with a recommendation for expulsion.
4. Attendance Expectations
  - 1) Athletes must be in complete attendance for their daily schedule to be eligible to play on that date. Athletes must be in attendance (no unexcused absences) for one half or more of their daily schedule to be eligible to practice on that date. The principal may grant exceptions to this rule.
5. Suspension
  - 1) Students under suspension from school are not eligible to practice and may not represent the school while under suspension. Students returning from suspension may face further participation limitation as a result of missed practice, lack of conditioning, etc.
6. Unbecoming Behavior
  - 1) A student participant is considered a representative of North Marion Schools and may be suspended by a coach from practice; or one (1) game; or event for unbecoming behavior such as vandalism, rowdyism, unsportsmanlike conduct or insubordination. Further, the school may suspend a student, who is suspected of being arrested, from athletic participation for conduct detrimental to being a student representative. The administration will provide the student with the allegations and give him/her an opportunity to rebut the charges.
7. Student Dress
  - 1) Student participants traveling to athletic contests or scheduled events, are to dress as defined by the coach and/or school administration.
8. "Skipped" Practice
  - 1) A student participant who "skips" practices or games will be dealt with on an individual basis by the coach.

9. Multi-Sport Participation
  - 1) Participation by athletes in more than one (1) sport during a sport season shall be done only with approval of coaches, the parents of the athletes, and principal
  - 2) After the start of a sport, no student shall change from one sport to another without the approval of the parent, student, affected coaches, and principal.

## B. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

A student must be enrolled in school, attending regularly and passing four (4) classes, and who during the immediate preceding trimester was enrolled in school, attended regularly, and passed four (4) classes (Oregon School Activities Association Requirements).

In addition to OSAA requirements above, NMSD requires:

1. A Student must not have had an "F" grade in the previous trimester. An "F" grade will make the student ineligible to participate and/or represent the school for the current trimester. Students may not practice if they do not meet the OSAA standard unless they are impacted by an overlapping trimester schedule. In this situation, they apply to the principal for an exception. The principal's approval will be contingent, in part, on the student submitting a plan for how he/she will fulfill academic requirements given the time demands of athletic/activity participation. Students granted an exception and allowed to practice must meet the OSAA academic standard at the next grading period.
2. A student must have received a 2.0 GPA in the preceding trimester. However, a six-week (The first trimester has four week grading period) probationary period in the current trimester is allowed for the student to practice but not represent the school. If he or she attains a positive progress grade report, of at least a 2.0 GPA in the current trimester, then the student is eligible to participate on the team.

In case of alleged violations, due process of notification of alleged violations and the right to a hearing must be extended to students involved. The administration of this policy rests with the school administration and the coach. Requests to appeal this policy shall be directed to the principal.

Individual Education Program (IEP)-any student who has an IEP but has not met the OSSA or NMSD academic standard due to their handicapping condition may still be eligible to participate if the students' multi-disciplinary team determine that the student is making adequate progress towards meeting their goals and objectives.