

District Athletic/Activities Eligibility

It is the goal of the district to conduct an athletic/activities program that supports the vision of the district. Athletics/activities are an important part of the education process and make a significant contribution to the personal growth and development of students. The focus of athletics/activities is on skill development, self-esteem, discipline, peer relationships, and sportsmanship. Students participating in athletics/activities must follow Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) rules and regulations and the District policies, rules and regulations outlined in the code of conduct.

All Students

To be eligible for athletic/activity participation in Grades 7-12, all students must meet the following requirements:

1. **Student Body Card:** All students participating in athletics/activities in Grades 7 - 12 must hold a current student body card.
2. **Academics:** All OCHS students must have passed four classes the previous trimester, be enrolled in and passing four credit classes in the current trimester. All MS students must meet the eligibility requirements established by the school they attend.
3. **Attendance:** All students must be in compliance with the attendance policy. Any partial or full day absence the day of an athletic contest/activity will result in ineligibility for that activity. A pattern of irregular attendance may be reviewed by the administration at any time and may result in short-term or long-term ineligibility as determined by administrative review.
4. **Behavior:** Students participating in athletics/activities are expected to model exemplary behavior. Students who establish a pattern of noncompliance as defined by the student code of conduct or the athletic handbook may be declared ineligible to participate in athletics/activities for a period of time determined by the administration.
5. **Participation Fee:** Pay the respective participation fee for the sport or activity as established by the board or the sponsor of the activity. There is no individual or family maximum payment for students participating in athletics. All students participating in athletics who qualify for the free or reduced lunch program will be charged one half of the fee determined by the Board. Waivers may be granted for financial hardship at the discretion of the building administration.

Special Education Students

Exceptions to participation requirements will be made only when the disabling condition, as identified in a student's IEP, prevents the student from achieving the required grade point average, behavior standard or attendance requirement.

Alternative Program Students/Charter School Students

Flexibility will be provided for these students as it relates to transferring into and out of an alternative program/charter school. The academic, behavior and attendance requirements appropriate to the student's placement shall all apply once a student begins participation.

Home-Schooled Students

Home-schooled students will be considered eligible for participation if they meet the following criteria:

1. The student is in compliance with all the rules governing home schooling and can provide acceptable documentation of compliance to the district;
2. The student can meet the district's eligibility requirements with the exception of attendance;
3. The student need not meet class requirements of the voluntary association administering the activity;
4. The student can achieve the minimum achievement test score required of home-schooled students. Students may participate while awaiting test results;
5. The student must fulfill the same responsibilities, standards of behavior and performance, including related class or practice requirements, as other students participating in the activity. The student must also comply with all public school requirements during the time of participation;
6. The student must reside in the attendance boundaries of the school for which the student participates.

Athletic/Activity Participation Fees

All fees are due and payable to the district prior to the first day of competition (first contest). A payment plan will be available with the first payment due prior to the first day of competition (first contest) and full payment prior to the end of the season.

The participation fee paid by the athlete to the district provides the student with the opportunity to compete with fellow teammates for competition with district scheduled opponents. In no way does the fee assure the student of the opportunity to participate in each district scheduled contest. The playing time of each team member will continue to be determined by the head coach.

Revenue to the district resulting from the participation fee will be used to offset the expense of all district funded athletic programs.

Athletic Code of Conduct

The athletic code of conduct applies to all students participating in the district athletic program. This code applies from the first day of all season practices (approximately August 15 each year for 9-12 students) and extends through the last regular student day of the school year. During that time, the code applies 24 hours each day, seven days a week. It applies to in-school and out-of-school conduct. It applies to all students once they have registered in school and extends for the duration of enrollment in the district.

Student athletes and a parent/guardian must annually sign the athletic code of conduct card indicating understanding of the rules and regulations governing athletics. To be eligible, the signed athletic code of conduct card must be on file prior to the beginning date of practice.

Physical Examinations

All students participating in athletics in Grades 7 - 12 are required to have a current physical examination signed by the physician and parent/guardian on file with the district prior to the first athletic practice.

1. Physical exams are given at grades 7, 9, and 11 and are effective for two years.
2. The physician must fill out the OSAA School Sports Pre-Participation Examination Form completely.
3. Any physician's concerns about an athlete's condition must be cleared by the first practice in order for the athlete to be eligible.
4. The cost for the physical examination is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Health Insurance

All student athletes must have evidence of active health insurance coverage on file in the school's office prior to the first athletic practice.

The cost of health insurance for student athletes is the responsibility of the athlete's parents/guardians.

Student Insurance, a program sponsored through an independent insurance company, is available for all students enrolled in the district. Information will be provided by the district for parents/guardians to purchase insurance through the student insurance program.

Each athlete who participates in football in grades 9 - 12 covered by student insurance must carry the football coverage offered in the student insurance program.

Emergency Procedures

All student athletes must have a completed emergency procedure form signed by a parent/guardian on file in the school's office prior to the first practice.

Should an emergency occur during an athletic practice or contest, the school, coach, or athletic trainer will notify the person(s) indicated on the form as the emergency contact(s).

Should an emergency occur during an athletic practice or contest, and the authorized emergency contact(s) are unavailable, the school, coach, or trainer will make the decision to provide medical care or transport the student to a medical facility.

Behavior/Misconduct

Participants are expected to model exemplary behavior. Students in violation of a severe disciplinary infraction or who establish a pattern of noncompliance as defined by the student code of conduct or the athletic handbook will have the incident(s) reviewed by the administration. The administrative review may result in discipline up to and including being declared ineligible to participate in district activities for a length of time to be determined by the administration.

Any of the following actions of misconduct that occur while participating in an athletic program will result in discipline as determined by the coach, subject to administrative review:

1. Showing disrespect of officials, participants, coaches, or team members.
2. Vulgar or profane language.
3. Fighting.
4. Unsportsmanlike or otherwise inappropriate behavior.

Any student athlete who has been suspended from school is not eligible to participate in practices or contests from the time of suspension until reinstatement.

Dual Participation

Although it seldom occurs, a student athlete may participate in more than one athletic activity during one season. Students may change athletic activities only with the approval of both coaches and the principal/designee.

Equipment

Each student athlete is responsible for the equipment issued to him/her. At the completion of the season, the participant must return the equipment in good condition or pay replacement cost of the item(s) lost or damaged. Students may not become members of any other athletic team until they have returned all equipment from any previous sports season.

Awards

Athletic awards (letters) will be presented at the end of the season to deserving participants as determined by the coach and the principal/designee. No award will be given to those not completing the season or to those with outstanding athletic debts or uniforms.

Middle school students will receive certificates of participation in place of awards.

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco (Use or Possession)

Drugs are defined as any illegal drug, including narcotics, hallucinogens, inhalants, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, and other substances made illegal by the federal law, as well as the misuse or unauthorized use or possession of prescription drugs. Tobacco is defined as the use or possession of any tobacco product, including chewing tobacco. Alcohol is defined as any beverage containing alcohol.

Consequences for the use or possession of drugs/alcohol/tobacco by Middle School students will be governed by the district's policies and procedures.

Consequences for High School students using or possessing drugs/alcohol/tobacco are as follows:

1. First Consequence (for first violation during grades 9-12: The student athlete will be excluded from 20 percent of contests (during current year or next sport season in which the athlete participates within one calendar year) and must receive an assessment for chemical dependence (students having difficulty scheduling an assessment will be allowed to participate after missing 20 percent of the contests, if assessment appointment is verified by an administrator), or dismissal from athletic participation for one calendar year if assessment is refused.

Twenty percent of contests will be calculated from the total scheduled contests for the regular season. If the calculation computes into a fraction of an additional contest, then the exclusion shall continue through that full contest, and not some portion thereof.

2. Second Consequence (for second violation during grades 9 - 12): The student athlete will be excluded from athletic participation for nine school weeks. The student must complete a current assessment for chemical dependency and comply with the recommendation of the assessment. Refusal to undergo an assessment or to failure comply with recommendations will result in dismissal from athletic participation for one calendar year.
3. Third Consequence (for third violation during grades 9 - 12): The student athlete will be excluded from athletic participation for one calendar year.
4. Self-Referral: There may be no disciplinary consequences under the code of conduct if, prior to the investigation or apprehension for an offense involving the use of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs, the student athlete voluntarily requests assistance from school officials. The intent is to assist the athlete who has a long-term addiction or abuse problem. Any student who self-refers will be required to undergo and follow the recommendation of an assessment. Should a student athlete, at a later time, be found in violation of this code, he/she would face the consequences as a second violation.

Eligibility Appeals

1. All appeals concerning academic eligibility will follow OSAA guidelines.

2. All behavior appeals must be submitted in writing to the building principal. Further appeals made after the principal's response may be made to the superintendent/designee.
3. All appeals concerning alcohol/drugs/tobacco use or possession are to be submitted in writing to the building principal. Further appeals made following the principal's response may be made to the superintendent/designee.

Complaints

All complaints from students participating in athletics/activities and/or their parents should be referred directly to the coach/advisor. All complaints will follow the established district procedure.