

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY GRIZZLIES

2018-2019 ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



Ypsilanti Community Schools Mission

The purpose of YCS is to develop mindful, engaged students with the skill set, work ethic, and attitude to



contribute to a community that honors diversity, equality and justice.

Ypsilanti Community Schools Vision

YCS is academically strong and committed to transforming in ways that help students thrive. YCS is the choice for a trusted, reliable and social just district. YCS is a sense of connection for families in a district where each and every one is valued and belongs. YCS is your consistently well managed and organized district.

Ypsilanti Community Athletic Department Mission

The mission of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Athletic Department is to support, promote and reflect the district's vision of being the first choice for an exceptional cradle to career education. We will do this by educating, developing and serving student-athletes through a culture of academic, athletic and service excellence.

Ypsilanti Community Athletic Department Vision

The Ypsilanti Community Schools Athletic Department will be recognized for excellence in the classroom, in competition and in the community.

2018-2019 Athletic Teams Sanctioned By Ypsilanti Community Schools.



Fall

Cross Country (Boys and Girls)
Football (Boys)
Golf (Girls)
Soccer (Boys)
Swimming and Diving (Girls)
Tennis (Boys)
Volleyball (Girls)
Sideline Cheer (Girls)

Winter

Basketball (Boys)
Basketball (Girls)
Competitive Cheer (Girls)
Swimming and Diving (Boys)
Wrestling (Boys)

Spring

Baseball (Boys)
Golf (Boys)
Soccer (Girls)
Softball (Girls)
Tennis (Girls)
Track and Field (Boys and Girls)

Ypsilanti Community Athletics Core Values



DIVERSITY: We embrace diversity and equity throughout our department. We will hire coaches, lead student-athletes and select teams without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic. We recognize the need to work as a team while valuing each individual's self-worth.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL: We are committed to excellence on the field, in the classroom and in our service to community.

STUDENT VOICE & EMPOWERMENT: Our students are the cornerstones of why we are here. We will encourage and empower our student-athletes to take an active role in their own success.

RESILIENCE: A loss on the field is inevitable. So it is our commitment to get back up, improve, and use that hurdle as a motivator for success. Students may struggle within the class, but we refuse to give up on them or allow them to give up on themselves. We are relentless in our pursuit of success in the classroom, on the field and in the community.

VIBRANT COMMUNITY & FAMILY

PARTNERSHIPS: We are cooperative and coordinated in our efforts with our student-athletes and their families, coaches, staff, and the larger Ypsilanti community. Our passion for sport, education and community will be second to none.

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION: We seek out best practices, but will also be a trailblazer that creates or



redefines the standard. We will challenge the status quo by pursuing excellence through innovation and bold new ideas.

RESPECT: We will treat our students, parents, and community with dignity, kindness and respect.

EFFICIENCY: We shall at all times maintain a fiscally responsible and economically sound structure that provides the best environment for our student-athletes to be successful in the classroom, on the field and in the community.

Athletic Director's Philosophy

We will pursue athletic excellence through commitment to the highest standards of integrity, ethics, and honesty. The athletic program shall recognize student-athletes' academic pursuits first as a student and then an athlete. We encourage an atmosphere of fair play, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, in compliance with the Ypsilanti School District, the Southeastern Conference, and the MHSAA. Our athletic program is based on education with coaches as teachers. On the field of play we will give maximum effort and have a win first mentality. Our teams will respect all and fear none.



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT STANDARDS AND EXPECTATIONS

Student Athletes Standards and Expectations

1. Maintain academic eligibility standards outlined by The MHSAA and Ypsilanti Community Schools Athletic Department.
2. Demonstrate sportsmanship and integrity to all coaches, teammates, opponents, spectators, school staff and officials during the course of an athletic season.
3. Attend all practices, games and team functions outlined by the coach. If a student athlete has to miss a practice or contest they must notify the coach with a legitimate reason prior to the practice or contest.
4. Maintain a good image on and off of the competitive field of play; refraining from inappropriate behaviors in school, social media platforms and within the community
5. Communicate any physical injuries or setbacks to the Head Coach and Athletic Trainer.



Coaching Standards and Expectations

1. Develop an understanding of the role of interscholastic athletics, and communicate it to players, parents and the public.
2. Develop an up to date knowledge of the rules, strategies, safety precautions, and skills of the sport and communicate them to players and parents.
3. Develop, communicate and model policies for athlete's conduct and language in the locker room, at practice, during travel, during competition and other appropriate times.
4. Develop fair, unprejudiced relationships with all squad members.
5. Allow athletes to prove themselves anew each season and do not base team selections off previous seasons or out of season activities.
6. Allow athletes time to develop skills and interests in other athletic and non-athletic activities provided by the school and community groups.
7. Give the highest degree of attention to a student athlete's physical wellbeing.
8. Teach players strict adherence to game rules and contest regulations.
9. Teach players, by example, respect for school authorities and contest officials providing support for them in cases of adverse decisions and refraining from critical comments in public or to the media.
10. Attend required meetings, keep abreast of MHSAA policies regarding the sport, and be familiar with MHSAA eligibility and contest regulations.



11. Present a clean professional image in terms of personal appearance, and provide a positive role model in terms of personal habits, language and conduct.

Parental Standards and Expectations

1. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game.
2. Place the physical and emotional wellbeing of all the participants ahead of any personal desires to win.
3. Provide prompt transportation home for student athletes after the conclusion of practices and contests.
4. Provide support for coaches and officials working with the participants to provide a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
5. Promote tobacco, alcohol, drug and violence free sports environment for the participants and agree to assist by refraining from their use at events.
6. Refrain from comments or actions that are intended to intimidate, bait, anger or embarrass others.
7. Maintain the position as a spectator and refrain from coaching in the stands.
8. Support the participants in the appropriately designed areas for spectators.
9. Remember the game is for students not adults.
10. Make youth sports fun for all the participants.
11. Expect that your child treats all other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect, regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.



12. Keep all comments from the stands positive, including those directed toward individuals other than your own child.
13. Promise to help your child enjoy the extra-curricular experience within your personal constraints by being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever you are capable of doing.



MHSAA Membership Resolution

Ypsilanti Community Schools is a member of the MHSAA. With this membership the school declares what schools are eligible to participate in Ypsilanti Community Athletics that are sponsored by the MHSAA. The schools that are on this membership resolution are listed below. Communication regarding any aspect of the Ypsilanti Community Athletic Department will come from the sources listed in the handbook on Media Communication. The YCHS athletic office will also communicate athletic information to the member schools Activities Director, administrative assistant or school administrator.

6-8

Ypsilanti Community Middle School (A.C. Tech;
S.T.E.MM.)

Washtenaw International Middle Academy (W.I.M.A.)

9-12

Ypsilanti Community High School (A.C. Tech;
S.T.E.E.M)

Achieving Career and College Education (A.C.C.E.)

Early College Alliance (ECA)

Washtenaw International High School (W.I.H.I.)

Washtenaw Technical Middle College (W.T.M.C)

Forrest School

Washtenaw DHHS



COMMUNICATION

Media Communication to All Stakeholders

Communication regarding schedules, cancellations, changes, upcoming athletic events, fundraisers and any other topic of importance to the Ypsilanti Community Athletic programs will stem from the Athletic Office through various media sources

- Website – ypsigrizzlies.com
- Remind App – Group Text and Voice messaging service
- Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

Athletic Department Conflict Resolution Process

- All complaints must be held at the lowest level possible BEFORE intervention by a higher authority can occur.
- A 24 hour “cooling off” period must be granted before any complaints are initiated.
- Complaints must be made within 10 days of the incident. The entire process of Conflict Resolution must be completed within 30 days.

Due Process

1. **Speak to the Source of the Issue:** The player will speak directly with the coach, player or other individual in which they have a problem with. This meeting should be done in private away from practice sites and game areas and should be conducted face to face. Students who feel uncomfortable speaking solely to the coach may request a parent to be present, however the meeting should be conducted by the athlete.



2. **Speak to the Head Coach:** This step is necessary only if the issue is in regards to another player, or lower level coach. If speaking with the head coach does not resolve the problem then the Head Coach should be notified and he/she should attempt to facilitate a solution. If the source of the issue is the head coach and he/she has been spoken to about this issue then move to step 3.
3. **Contact Athletic Director:** If an agreeable solution is not reached, then the Athletic Director will conduct a meeting between the parties in an attempt to find a resolution.
4. **Contact the Principal:** If an agreeable solution is not reached, then the Principal will conduct a meeting between the parties in an attempt to find a resolution
5. **Notify the Superintendent:** At this point in the process individuals who still believe their disputes have not been resolved adequately can submit a written narrative of their complaint to the School Superintendent. A copy of this file will be given to all concerned parties, who will be afforded the option of written rebuttal. After the superintendent has reviewed the documents he can conduct a meeting in a final attempt to resolve the dispute.
6. **Request a School Board Mediation:** This final step is appropriate only in extreme circumstances and shall follow the same process laid down for the Superintendent.



Communication all parents can expect from their child's coach or the Athletic Director

- **Team Itinerary** – Parents need to know the location and times of all try-outs, practices, games, bus trips, meetings, banquets, team camps, conditioning sessions, et cetera.
- **Team Rules:** Parents appreciate knowing not only the philosophy of the coach but also any team policies including consequences that the coach established to supplement the code of conduct, rules and regulations.
- **Criteria for Team Selection:** Coaches should develop and communicate criteria for team selection including objective criteria such as those measured by the stopwatch or skills completed as well as subjective evaluations such as attitude, effort, catchability, grades and potential.
- **Criteria for Earning an Award:** Coaches should determine and distribute written criteria to parents
- **Injury:** Parents can expect to be informed immediately by the coach or team representative when an injury occurs that requires medical attention. Parents may contact athletic trainer for additional information on care.
- **Problem Behavior:** Coaches should call parents whenever an athlete exhibits atypical behavior and it persist longer than 48 hours.
- **Discipline** – The coach will inform parents within 24 hours of all discipline that results in loss of contest participation or removal from the team.



Communication Coaches Appreciate from Parents

- **Schedule Conflicts:** If a parent cannot contact the coach directly, leave a message with appropriate school personnel in a timely manner.
- **Emotional Stressors:** Coaches appreciate knowing about any unusual event in the life of a student athlete that is causing the student athlete additional stress.
- **Volunteers:** Coaches need help with so many aspects of managing the program (fundraisers, work projects, team dinners, awards banquet, et cetera) that they are always glad to hear from parents who have ideas and are willing to work for the team.
- **Forthrightness:** Every coach wants to resolve a conflict before it is taken to the Athletic Director, Principal or other higher authority or before it is discussed in the stands.

Appropriate Concerns for Parents to Discuss with Coaches.

- The treatment of your child
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's physical health and welfare. Academic progress, or violation of the code of conduct

Areas of Control That Belong to the Coach Alone:

- Tryout procedures, team placement, team size and selection criteria
- Position(s) played, lineups, and playing time
- Offensive and defensive strategies play calling and style of play



- Practice plans, drills and scrimmages
- Coaching staff (upon approval of the Athletic Director and Human Resources dept.)



MHSAA RULES NON-NEGOTIABLE RULES
SUMMARY

1. **AGE** High school students become ineligible if they reach their 19th birthday before September 1 of a current school year.

2. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION** Students must have on file, in the school's office, a physician's statement for the current school year (on or after April 15), certifying that he/she is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. An assumption of risk and consent to participation signed by the student and parent or guardian as well as consent to disclosure of Information otherwise protected by FERPA and HIPAA must also be on file prior to participation.

3. **ENROLLMENT** Students must be enrolled in the school they are representing prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day for the first semester/trimester or second trimester or prior to the fourth Friday of February for the second semester or second or third trimester. "Enrolled," under this rule, is receiving active credit in at least 66% of full credit load potential for a full time student of the school you participate for. (Generally 4 of 5 or 6 classes on a transcript awaiting grades).

4. **MAXIMUM ENROLLMENT** Students cannot be eligible in high school for more than eight semesters, or twelve trimesters and the seventh and eighth semesters or 10th, 11th and



12th trimesters must be consecutive. Students are allowed four first semesters and four second semesters or four first, four second and four third trimesters of enrollment and competition and cannot compete if they have graduated from high school or accepted a GED. Terms count to the allowed total whether or not a student participates in sports.

5. ACADEMIC RECORDS Students must have received credit for at least the equivalent of 66 percent of full credit load potential for a full time student in the previous semester/trimester of enrollment, and must be currently receiving credit toward graduation or a certificate of completion and passing the same on the transcript of the school they represent in competition. The MHSAA minimum period of ineligibility is 60 school days for a student who has not passed 66% at the end of a term.

6. TRANSFER STUDENTS Under the rules during the 2018-19 school year, a student in grades 9 through 12 who transfers to another high school is not eligible to participate in any interscholastic contest for a set period of time (nearly one half the school year) depending on when the student changes schools unless the student qualifies for immediate eligibility under one or more of 15 stated exceptions and their written interpretations. An otherwise eligible transfer student who changes schools after set dates may not be eligible for MHSAA Tournaments. (Oct. 1 for Fall sports, Feb. 1 for Winter sports, May 1 for Spring sports).



International students in the US on an F -1 or J-1 visa should contact the athletic director for allowances and differences under the transfer rule.

Under the Athletic-Related Transfer Rule, a transfer student who has played high school sports and who does not meet one of the 15 stated exceptions would be ineligible for 180 school days in that sport if the transfer is into a school where one of the following links existed in the previous 12 months: A student participated on a non-school activity coached, coordinated or directed by any of that high school's parents or administrators or by any of its coaches. The student was coached by a former coach or personal trainer (school, non-school or out-of-season/summer) now on the staff of the new school; or the student attended an open gym at the new school. Under a rule known as an Athletic Motivated Transfer, an ineligible transfer student who is confirmed to have transferred for athletic reasons is ineligible to participate in an interscholastic contest for 180 scheduled school days for the school to which the student transfers.

Students and parents anticipating a change of schools should first seek advice from their high school administration. Effective Aug. 1, 2018 a Sport Specific Transfer rule affects students who change schools and do not meet one of the stated 15 Exceptions such as a full residential change. Starting Aug. 1, 2019, a student would have no eligibility for the upcoming season in a sport



actually played the previous season in that sport (participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest). Students who transfer during a season in which they are participating are ineligible for the rest of that season and they remain ineligible at all levels of that sport through the next complete season in that sport. A transfer student would have immediate eligibility in a sport not played the previous season for that sport.

A student who plays in a scrimmage or a contest this school year (2018-19) and transfers without meeting one of the 15 stated Exceptions such as a full residential change, will not be eligible in that sport for the next school year. Beginning next year (2019-20), a student would have immediate eligibility in a sport not played in high school the previous school year.

7. UNDUE INFLUENCE (Anti-Recruiting)

The use of undue influence by any person directly or indirectly associated with a student or school to secure or encourage the attendance of a student for athletic purposes, shall cause the student to become ineligible for a minimum of 90 scheduled school days and a maximum of four years. Adults who recruit because of sports face suspension or disconnection from the program for up to four years.

8. LIMITED TEAM MEMBERSHIP After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport in the same season. Exceptions



include ice hockey and all individual sports, which apply the rule from the point of a student's first participation in a contest or scrimmage, rather than practice. In tennis, the rule applies from the first date that competitions are allowed to commence for any player. In skiing it applies when the team holds its first scrimmage or contest. Students in skiing, hockey and soccer may only enter the MHSAA tournament if they have been a team member in a contest against at least four MHSAA member school teams. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two (2) non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school.

9. ALL-STAR COMPETITION Students who have represented any MHSAA school in competition in any MHSAA sport shall not compete at any time in any MHSAA tournament sport in all-star contests or national high school championships, regardless of the method of selection. Participation in an all-star contest shall cause that student to become ineligible for a maximum period of one year of school enrollment in that sport.

10. AWARD STATUS & AWARDS Students who have represented an MHSAA school in competition in any MHSAA sport can- not receive money or other valuable consideration for participating in MHSAA-sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contests, except as allowed by the MHSAA HANDBOOK. Students may accept, for



participating in MHSAA sponsored sports, a symbolic or merchandise award which does not have a value over \$25. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips and admissions to events, are permitted if accepted “in kind.” Awards in the form of cash, merchandise, certificates, or any other type of negotiable document are never allowed.

MHSAA Top Ten List for Student Athletes

1. You were enrolled in a high school not later than the fourth Friday after Labor Day.
2. You will not have turned 19 before Sept. 1.
3. You have had a physical examination and MHSAA Student Participation Consent Form completed since April 15, and it is on file in the school office.
4. You have not been enrolled in more than eight semesters or 12 trimesters in high school (Grades 9-12).
5. You have received credit for the equivalent of at least 66 percent of full class-load potential for a full time student in the previous academic term.
6. You are currently passing the equivalent of at least 66 percent of full class-load potential for a full time student.
7. You have not changed schools without a corresponding move by your parents and persons



with whom you were living for at least 30 calendar days during your last semester/trimester. Beginning Aug. 1, 2018 any sport a student plays (scrimmage or contest) affects that student's eligibility should that student change schools (transfer) without a residential change as defined. That student would be ineligible in that sport at the new school in the coming school year. The student would be eligible for sports not played in the previous school year. This is the new Sport Specific Transfer Regulation.

8. You have not received money, merchandise or other valuable considerations for participating in MHSAA tournament sports.

9. You have not participated in non-school contests during your sports season after having reported for your school team (limited allowances for ice hockey and individual sports).

10. You have not competed in an all-star or national high school championship after having played for an MHSAA school team in any MHSAA tournament sport.

MHSAA Concussion Protocol

“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate



health care professional.” The language above, which appears in all National Federation sports rule books, reflects a strengthening of rules regarding the safety of athletes suspected of having a concussion. This language reflects an increasing focus on safety and acknowledges that the vast majority of concussions do not involve a loss of consciousness. This protocol is intended to provide the mechanics to follow during the course of contests when an athlete sustains an apparent concussion.

1. The officials will have no role in determining concussion other than the obvious one where a player is either unconscious or apparently unconscious. Officials will merely point out to a coach that a player is apparently injured and advise that the player should be examined by a health care professional for an exact determination of the extent of injury.

2. If it is confirmed by the school’s designated health care professional that the student did not sustain a concussion, the head coach may so advise the officials during an appropriate stoppage of play and the athlete may reenter competition pursuant to the contest rules.

3. Otherwise, if competition continues while the athlete is withheld for an apparent concussion, that athlete may not be returned to competition that day but is subject to the return to play protocol.



- a. The clearance may not be on the same date on which the athlete was removed from play.
 - b. Only an M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner may clear the individual to return to activity.
 - c. The clearance must be in writing and must be unconditional. It is not sufficient that the M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner has approved the student to begin a return-to-play progression. The medical examiner must approve the student's return to unrestricted activity.
 - d. Individual school, districts and leagues may have more stringent requirements and protocols including but not limited to mandatory periods of inactivity, screening and post-concussion testing prior to or after the written clearance for return to activity.
4. Following the contest, an Officials Report shall be filed with a removed player's school and the MHSAA if the situation was brought to the officials' attention.
5. **ONLINE REPORTING:** Member schools are required to complete and submit an online report designated by the MHSAA to record and track head injury events when they occur in all levels of all sports during the season in practices and



competitions. Schools with no concussions for a season (fall, winter and spring) are required to report this at the conclusion of that season.

6. POST-CONCUSSION CONSENT FORM:

Prior to returning to physical activity (practice or competition) the student and parent (if a minor student) must complete the Post-Concussion Consent Form which accompanies the written unconditional clearance of an M.D., D.O., P.A or N.P. This form should be kept on file at the school for seven years after the student's graduation and emailed to or faxed to 517- 332-4071.

7. In cases where an assigned MHSAA tournament physician (MD/DO/PA/NP) is present, his or her decision to not allow an athlete to return to activity may not be overruled.



HEALTH AND SAFETY OF STUDENT ATHLETES

Informed Consent – Assumption of Risk

Concussion Awareness

By its nature, participation in interscholastic athletics includes risk of injury which may range in severity. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised school athletic programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Players must obey all rules, report all physical problems to their coaches, follow a proper conditioning program, and inspect their own equipment daily. All athletes, parents and coaches must be aware of the signs and symptoms of concussion and the importance of discontinued participation in practices and competitions.

Insurance

Parents or guardians of athletes are required to obtain adequate insurance coverage for their children in the event of injury. All students participating in athletic events must carry some form of health or accident insurance.

- Ypsilanti Community Schools does not assume liability for injuries suffered by students while participating in athletic activities. The responsibility for the expenses incurred for athletics for doctors, ambulance, or medical expenses for injury must be assumed by the parent or guardian.



- The student athlete's family employer's insurance or private vendor health coverage insurance must provide coverage in case of any injury suffered while participating in athletics at Ypsilanti Community Schools.

Physicals

A physical form must be properly completed and signed by the parent/guardian and examining physician. This form shall be kept on file in the athletic office and on electronic file by the Athletic Trainer before a student may participate in athletic activities.

- a. A physical examination given after April 15th is good for the following school year.
- b. Physical examinations will be given free of charge to students at the RAHS clinic.

Injury Policy

Injury Reporting: Student athletes who are absent from practice due to extended illness or injury needs to report the injury to the Athletic Trainer.

Release to practice/compete following an injury: Any athlete who has sustained an injury must be released to return to competition or practice by the Ypsilanti Community Schools Athletic Trainer and or his/her M.D. or D.O. Release by M.D. or D.O. must be delivered in writing to the Athletic Trainer. If the Athletic Trainer feels the student athlete may be at risk of further, return may be withheld pending trainers consulting with team physician and/or athlete's physician.



Athletic Trainers Role: The Athletic Trainer is responsible for injury prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of student athletes.

Athlete's Responsibility: It is the responsibility of the athlete to follow the instructions of his/her physician, as well as the head trainer's recommendations and directions with regard to an injury, it is his/her own responsibility to follow up with treatment as directed by the team trainer.



ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Interscholastic Athletic Roles and Responsibilities

Student Athletes will:

- Maintain academic and social eligibility, through being a good student in school.
- Come prepared to work every practice where he/she is physically able.
- Accept the team rules as established by the coach, athletic department, and MHSAA.
- Attempt to communicate all questions and concerns with the coach in a timely fashion.
- Display a respectful attitude toward his/her teammates, coaches, officials, spectators and opponents at all times.

Parents will:

- Be supportive of not only their children but all competitors.
- Support team guidelines and goals
- Provide prompt transportation home after practices and contest for their participating (child)ren.
- Follow the appropriate communication protocol when any conflict of interest arises regarding athletic participation.

Coaches Will:

- Abide by MHSAA coaching standards as stated in the MHSAA handbook
- Come prepared to practice daily
- Make a strong effort to run a safe practice and competition area.



- Communicate important information (such as team expectations and important dates) to parents and administration.

Administrators will:

- Communicate with parents the Conflict resolution process.
- Enforce the chain of command as outlined in the conflict resolution process.
- Review with coaches the expectations as stated in the team's guidelines.
- Communicate and enforce athletic department expectations, procedures and guidelines to coaches, student athletes, parents, staff members and the community.

The Board of Education will:

- Recognize athletes and programs for academic and athletic success.
- Serve as an arbitrator in disputes that have exhausted the full grievance process.
- Enforce the chain of command as outlined in the conflict resolution process.
- Remain neutral by refusing all request to become involved in a dispute before a superintendent has been notified and all steps in the conflict resolution process has been exhausted.



Dual Participation Policy

There exists circumstances in which it may be in the best interest of both a particular team and an individual athlete to allow participation on more than one athletic team during a particular season. This would allow individual athletes the opportunity to excel in activities that will help both them and others grow and develop physically, socially and emotionally while at the same time helping the overall growth and development success of the entire team.

A parent/guardian of a student who wishes to participate in two sports should request a meeting with the student, the coaches of both sports, and the Activities director to discuss these wishes and review the following guidelines.

- a. A written contract will be established wherein all of the above named parties may agree on training and performance requirements concerning the games and practices.
- b. The athlete must choose his/her primary sport and would be expected to attend all practices and contests of the primary sport.
- c. The athlete would only be able to participate in the secondary sport when there is not a conflict with the primary sport activities. Potential conflicts will be resolved by the parties involved and included in the contract.
- d. The student athlete would be expected to abide by all team rules for both sports, unless mutually agreed upon.
- e. If the athlete fails to comply with any of the agreed upon criteria, the student athlete will no longer be eligible for the secondary sport.



Academic Eligibility Requirements

Previous Semester Record: The MHSAA mandates that a student in 9th - 12th grade must pass at least 66% of their classes in the previous semester and current semester on their report card in order to participate on a school sponsored athletic team. If a student does not pass the required 66% of classes they will be ineligible to participate in athletics for the current semester in which the sport is played. Students in grades 6th -8th must also adhere to this rule, however students in these grade levels must pass at least 50% of their classes in order to participate in athletics the following or current semester. A student entering 9th grade for the first time may compete without reference to his/her academic record in 8th grade

Current Semester Record: Student athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA and have no more than 1 failing grade. If they fail to do this they are ineligible for the following week. If they are ineligible again on the next weeks check they will be ineligible for another week. If there is a discrepancy with grade input in Powerschool. The student may take an athletic travel card issued by the athletic office to teachers to input current grades. The student has 24 hours to get the card filled out to clear up discrepancies.

Eligibility Checks: Eligibility Checks will occur bi-weekly. Players must maintain a 2.0 GPA and have no more than 1 failing grade. If they fail to do this they are ineligible for the following week. If they are ineligible again on the next weeks check they will be ineligible for another week.



School and Athletic Discipline

Disciplinary Actions: If a player is suspended from school they are ineligible to participate in practice or game competition the day the suspension was issued until the suspension is over. A player can be suspended indefinitely from athletic practice or competition for disciplinary reasons by way of the coach, athletic director, principal or superintendent's decision.

School Attendance Requirements

A student athlete must be in school all day on the day of an athletic contest unless he/she is participating in a school sponsored function. If there are extenuating circumstances to an athlete's attendance, the school attendance officer or Athletic Director will determine the eligibility.

Equipment

- Any individual who has failed to return, in good condition, any equipment issued shall be ineligible for an award and from participation in any other sport until such equipment is satisfactorily returned or the Athletic Department is reimbursed. Seniors who do not return equipment will have graduation materials withheld until equipment is returned or paid for.
- If a student does not return equipment at the conclusion of season or upon removal from the team will be responsible to pay for the equipment at its total value.



Snow Day Procedure

- If school is cancelled due to a snow day or unforeseen circumstance, all activities will be cancelled until conditions are deemed safe to travel or conduct practice by the Superintendent and Athletic Director.
- Student athletes will be notified by their coach if practices or contest are going to be conducted. The practice and contest status will be posted on the Ypsilanti Community Schools athletic website ypsigrizzlies.com with details.

NCAA Eligibility Center

- Students interested in competing in division one or two collegiate athletics must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. Students should contact the YCHS counseling office, or view the NCAA website at <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

Award Policies

- A. All awards must conform to the regulations of the MHSAAA. A season is not completed until the conclusion of the awards banquet.
- B. Award Hardware Policy
 1. Freshmen Team – certificate
 2. Junior Varsity Team – certificate and numerals
 3. Varsity Team
 - a. First Year – Athletic Y Letter
 - b. Second year – 1st bar
 - c. Third Year – 2nd bar



- d. If a freshmen is awarded a letter, he/she will receive the numerals along with the letter.
- e. All award candidates must have conformed to the regulations for attendance at practices and contests to the satisfaction of the coach for that sport.
- f. All award candidates should have displayed at all times, to opponents, officials and fellow teammates, the type of sportsmanship that is demanded by the YCS athletic department.
- g. All award candidates must have conformed to all of the rules for equipment return.

Letter Requirements for All Sports

As head coaches and sport regulations change, the letter requirements that follow may change. The changes will be outlined in each coaches written sports guidelines and reviewed with the Athletic Director.

All student athletes and team managers who receive a letter for sport participation must:

- Complete the season in good standing with letter approval from the head coach.
- Be a member of the varsity team for at least half of a season.
- Complete any extra requirements outlined prior to the season by the Head Varsity Coach that are not written above.



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