



WELCOME!

Welcome to the athletic program of the Northwestern Local Schools. By joining an athletic team, you have become an integral component in one of the most prestigious programs in all of Ohio. Northwestern has enjoyed a long and proud tradition of athletic excellence, sporting a great number of OHSAA Tournament & Wayne County Athletic League Championships.

In order to ensure that the Northwestern community has a quality athletic program on and off the playing fields of which it can be proud, the District and Athletic Department have developed guidelines to help maintain the high standards of excellence expected from Northwestern student-athletes. It is our hope that this handbook will help provide student-athletes, parent/guardian(s) and coaches with the information necessary to excel within the athletic program.

We wish each and every one of our student-athletes, parents and coaches the best of success as they compete this year. GO HUSKIES!

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*Sportsmanship is  
Everyone's Responsibility!*

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<p>For the latest information, scores and news, visit <a href="http://www.nhshuskies.com">www.nhshuskies.com</a> or <a href="http://www.nmshuskies.com">www.nmshuskies.com</a></p>
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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Northwestern Athletic Department, dedicated to student excellence in both academics and athletics, will provide a nurturing environment to assist in developing lifelong learning skills while developing student-athletes into productive members of society. The staff will promote hard work, sportsmanship, integrity and discipline to help instill a sense of pride and tradition in “Husky” athletics, our community, our schools and our nation. Staff members will provide a positive environment to enable the student-athlete to work toward his/her ultimate potential.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- We may not always win, but we will be successful as we continually strive to do so. We will have a desire to excel in all endeavors and we will accept defeat with grace knowing that we have striven to win with the utmost dedication.
- We must accept success and defeat like true sportsmen, knowing that we have given our best effort. We must treat others as we would have others treat us including the admirable traits of self-control, honesty, teamwork, integrity and dependability.
- Continual improvement is essential to becoming a good citizen. We will establish goals and strive to reach them and in doing so, we will better ourselves in the skills and characteristics set forth.
- It is necessary for us to acknowledge the personal rewards we obtain from athletics and we will give sufficiently of ourselves in order to preserve and improve the outstanding program we are all art of.
- We will become active, contributing citizens by obtaining a high degree of physical fitness and good health habits through athletic participation. We will also develop the desire to maintain this level after competition.
- We will remember that above all, sports are a game. As such, while we play these great games we will always strive to have fun!

## **Levels of Competition**

### **Middle School**

Emphasis at the MS level is individual participation as well as team success. Every attempt will be made to encourage student participation in athletics, including the creation of 'A' & 'B' squads in certain sports. Equally important to individual improvement are the social aspects of team participation. Attempts will be made to play as many students as possible in each game while also ensuring success for the entire team.

### **Freshman**

Emphasis at the freshman level is on participation, skill development and team success. If a sports program supports a freshman squad, efforts will be made not to cut players at this level as the future ability of these athletes is uncertain. Attempts will be made to play as many students as possible during each contest while striving for victory for the entire team.

### **Junior Varsity**

Emphasis at this level of competition begins to focus on skill refinement and winning as a team. Cutting may occur at this level in certain sports. Also, it is possible that not every player will play in every game.

### **Varsity**

The perfection of skill, playing the best athletes possible and winning is the emphasis at this level. While winning at all costs will never be a part of our philosophy, no apology should be necessary if the varsity team does all it can within the bounds of ethics, integrity and sportsmanship to win each contest. In certain sports, cutting may be used and it is extremely likely that not every player will play in every contest.

## **Middle School Interscholastic Sports**

Northwestern Middle School participates in the following interscholastic athletics within the governing rules, procedures and guidelines of the OHSAA & WCAL:

Football (7th & 8th)

Wrestling (7th & 8th)

Volleyball (7th & 8th)

Track (boys & girls, 7th & 8th)

Basketball (boys & girls, 7th & 8th)

Cheerleading (football & basketball, 7th & 8th)

## **High School Interscholastic Sports**

Northwestern High School participates in interscholastic athletics within the governing rules, procedures and guidelines of the OHSAA & WCAL and presents awards at the conclusion of the season in:

Baseball

Football

Wrestling

Volleyball

Fast Pitch Softball

Golf (boys & girls)

Soccer (boys & girls)

Basketball (boys & girls)

Track & Field (boys & girls)

Cross Country (boys & girls)

Cheerleading (football & basketball)

## Club Sports

Indoor Track & Field

Middle School Golf Club

Middle School Cross Country Club

Cheerleading Competition Squad

## Conduct of a Student-Athlete

A student-athlete's conduct is closely observed in many different arenas. Student-athletes must understand that he/she is a role model to fellow classmates and also younger students. An athlete's behavior must be above reproach in all areas.

In the area of athletic competition, the use of profanity and unsportsmanlike or illegal tactics must never be used. Athletes understand that losing is part of the game and are expected to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game regardless of result. Student-athletes will show respect to opponents, coaches, fans and game officials at all times.

A **student-athlete** is expected to reach his/her ultimate potential in the academic arena as well. Athletes must plan their schedules so that sufficient time and energy is given to classroom performances. In addition to maintaining good academic standing, athletes will give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and the school's faculty and staff. Horseplay and unnecessary boisterousness are not approved habits of behavior for student-athletes at Northwestern.

The way student-athletes look and act while at school is of great importance. They must make special effort to ensure that they exhibit qualities that make students respect and want to follow them.

Sportsmanship...

Make it a Tradition...

Practice it for Life!

## Responsibilities of a Student-Athlete

As a member of an athletic team, certain traditions and responsibilities must be maintained. A great athletic tradition such as the Northwestern Huskies is not built overnight. It has taken the hard work and dedication of many players and coaches throughout the years. As a student-athlete, you have inherited a wonderful tradition - a tradition you are challenged to uphold and improve.

The Northwestern tradition has been to compete with honor. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all players, coaches, parents and fans. Over the years, our squads have achieved their fair share of league and tournament championships, individual state records and All-State, All-Conference and All-American honors. It is not easy to contribute to such a great athletic tradition. To compete may mean that you will have to say no to certain “pleasures” an athlete cannot afford. When you wear the blue and gray, you must understand the sense of pride and tradition it carries and be willing to assume the responsibilities as well.

### Responsibilities to Yourself

The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experiences. Your studies and activity in extra-curricular activities will prepare you for your adult life.

### Responsibilities to Your School

Another responsibility you assume is to the school. Northwestern cannot maintain its position as an outstanding school district unless you do your best in whatever you engage and contribute to the reputation of the school and district. You have also assumed a leadership role as a member of an athletic squad. The student body and community members know you, see what you do and hear what you say. Community members, and even those outside our community, judge our schools and district by your conduct and attitude on and off the field. Always conduct yourself in a way that makes Northwestern proud of both you and your actions.

### Responsibilities to Others

You also bear heavy responsibility to your home. If you never give your family anything to be ashamed of, you will have measured up to the ideal. When you know in your heart that you have lived up to the training rules, that you have practiced to the best of your ability everyday and that you have played the game “all out,” you will keep your self-respect and your family can be justly proud of you.

## **Responsibilities of a Sport Parent**

In order to enjoy your child's participation to the fullest, and make it fun and valuable for him/her, please understand the responsibilities you take on as a parent of an athlete.

1. Encourage your child to play sports, but don't pressure. Let your child choose what and when to play.
2. Understand what your child wants from sports and provide support to achieve those goals.
3. Set limits on your child's participation. Don't let sports become your child's life - sports should be a part of life.
4. Help your child keep winning and losing in perspective.
5. Help your child set challenging, yet realistic performance goals. Don't focus simply only on winning the game or being the "star."
6. Help your child understand the lessons sports can teach.
7. Help your child meet team & school responsibilities.
8. Make certain your child follows the rules, regulations and guidelines of the Student Code of Conduct, the OHSAA, individual team rules & regulations and this Athletic Participation Handbook.
9. Allow the coaches do what they have been hired to do.
10. Provide the coach with information on special health conditions your child may have. Make sure your child brings any necessary medications to all practices and/or contests.
11. Make certain your child is on time.
12. Be sure your child receives proper rest & nourishment.

## **Expectations of Coaches, Student-Athletes, Parents & Fans**

The ideals of sportsmanship, ethical behavior & integrity (or a lack thereof) permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all disciplines. Sportsmanship is defined as those qualities of behavior characterized by generosity, a genuine concern for others, following accepted sports rules and acting with respect at all times. Further, an awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the North-

western School District as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.

It is the expectation of the Northwestern Board of Education that athletic practices be placed in perspective with other commitments of the individual athlete and their families. **In accordance with Board Policy KG-R, the use of school facilities and/or practices on Sunday are not permitted without prior Administrative approval.**

#### **Expectations of Coaches**

- Always set a good example for participants and fans, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship and demand they make sportsmanship a priority.
- Be constantly aware that instruction takes place through modeling, as well as, structured teaching.
- Desire to be a positive influence on players, fans, colleagues and others. Desire to win, but remember that this desire never overrides the health, safety, welfare, or the worth and dignity of the individual athlete.
- Completion and required updating of an approved course in sports-related first aid training for a Pupil Activity Supervisor Permit (PASP) and a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (Board Policy IGDJ, Adopted May 9, 1994).
- Be aware of various audiences: players, assistant coaches, teachers, administrators, board of education, parents, fans and others. Strive for consensus in program objectives and never risk losing the trust and confidence of those directly involved in the program.
- Promote all district athletic programs. Use local media and the district websites as a positive vehicle for program promotion.
- Discover the strengths, interests and aspirations of those involved in your program. Make assignments based on this knowledge in order to provide on-going growth and development opportunities for assistants and participants.
- Be sensitive to the thoughts and feelings of players, assistants and support personnel. Communicate a willingness to listen and be helpful, open and friendly.
- Have a high level of stamina and constantly strive for the competitive edge.
- Have the understanding and patience required to respond to even the most highly-pitched emotional situation. Make over-reaction and impulsive decision-making the exception rather than the rule.
- Establish and maintain positive relationships with persons involved in the school's program.
- Interrelate program needs with individual needs. Give priority to the individual's self-image, helping to generate performance.

- Be organized and prepared. Remain flexible and constantly aware of the need for revision and change.
- Be committed to coaching. Develop specific goals which relate to personal success and program growth.

#### **Expectations of Student-Athletes**

- Treat opponents with respectful greetings before & after each contest, regardless of result.
- Respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by the rules and make no display of behavior that could incite fans.
- Cooperate with officials, coaches and other participants to conduct a fair contest.
- Accept the responsibility and privilege of representing our school and community; display positive public action at all times.
- Live up to high standards of sportsmanship. Be respectful of your coach and fellow athletes.

#### **Expectations of Parents and Fans**

- Realize that purchasing a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support the district team. The ticket does not give you a right to verbally assault players, coaches, officials or other fans. This, and other generally obnoxious behavior subjects parents/fans to possible ejection from the event and/or grounds.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting the team in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.
- Respect decisions made by coaches and the contest officials.
- Be a fan. . . **Not** a fanatic.

#### **Acceptable Behavior**

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents who may foul out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Cheerleaders leading fans in positive school cheers
- Handshakes between players & coaches at contest end.
- Treating competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players searching out opposing participants to recognize outstanding performances.
- Showing concern for injured players.
- Encouraging others to display sportsmanlike conduct.

#### **Unacceptable Behavior**

- Use of artificial noisemakers at indoor events.
- Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures.
- Cheering at and/or against the opposing team and/or players (support our team/players instead).

- Doing own yells/cheers, instead of following lead of cheerleaders.
- Criticizing officials in an abusive and/or degrading way or showing displays of anger with a call.
- Blaming losses on officials, coaches or individual players.
- Unfavorable language or gestures directed to officials, opponent players, coaches and/or fans.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- Refusing to shake hands or recognize good performance.

## Risk of Participation

Student-athletes and parents must realize and understand the possibility of serious injury, *or even death*, as a normal hazard of athletic participation. Northwestern will use the following safeguards in an effort to eliminate injury:

- ◆ All coaches (paid or volunteer) will follow all OHSAA guidelines by obtaining proper coaching certification, including training in sports first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- ◆ Information on proper conditioning, nutrition and injury prevention and rehabilitation will be provided to all athletes by coaches and/or the athletic trainer (when available).

## Requirements for Participation

Student-athletes are prohibited from mandatory practices, scrimmages and/or games until the following items have been completed:

- ◆ Medical Insurance Responsibility Form
- ◆ Emergency Medical Authorization Form
- ◆ Physical Examination Form
- ◆ OHSAA Eligibility Bulletin Form
- ◆ Parent's & Student-Athlete's pledge Form

*Above forms (found in the Athletic Participation Packet) must be returned to the Head Coach prior to the first day of practice.*

- ◆ Satisfaction of Eligibility Requirements (see page 16)
- ◆ Team Training Rules Form (as provided by Head Coach)

## Communication is the key to success!

The Athletic Department continually attempts to improve communication with student-athletes, parents and fans. To be truly successful, it is necessary that everyone involved in a program understand the direction the program is headed. For this to occur, communication must be clear, concise and timely.

### What parents/guardians can expect from the Coach:

- When and where practice and contests are to be held.
- The coach's philosophy.
- The overall expectations the coach has for the squad.
- The coach's expectations for your son/daughter.
- Requirements to be a part of the team (i.e., fees, special equipment, off season conditioning, etc).
- Notification of injuries sustained by your son/daughter.
- Any disciplinary action toward your child that results in denial of participation.

### What Coaches expect from parents/guardians:

- Concerns about the program expressed directly to the Head Coach.
- **Written** notification of potential schedule conflicts well in advance. Coaches will not remember things told to them in passing.
- Support toward the program's goals & direction:
  - Be sure your son/daughter is on time to all practices.
  - Be sure your son/daughter receives proper rest & nourishment.
  - Be sure your son/daughter follows all school and athletic rules, regulations & guidelines.
  - Be sure your son/daughter is maintaining good academic standing.

## **What if a parent/guardian has a concern/issue to discuss with the Coach?**

### **To discuss a concern/issue with the Head Coach, the following procedure must be followed:**

- ◆ If a concern has validity, the AD expects that the issue is first discussed directly with the Head Coach.
- ◆ Call the school or stop by practice to make an appointment with the Coach.
- ◆ If the Coach cannot be reached, contact the appropriate AD who will set up an appointment.
- ◆ Do not attempt to confront the Coach before, during or after a contest. This is an emotional time for both of you and generally does not allow for objective analysis or rectification of an issue.
- ◆ Under no circumstances, except those instances of rule/policy infringement, will a parent-coach meeting have adverse consequences on the standing of the student-athlete.

### **Concerns not open to discussion:**

- ◆ Playing time. Only student-athletes may discuss playing time with the Coach.
- ◆ Team strategy, game-plan and/or play calling
- ◆ Comparisons of your child to other student-athletes
- ◆ Other student-athletes in general

### **Concerns/Issues open for discussion with the Coach:**

- ◆ The mental and physical treatment of your child.
- ◆ Skill improvement and development for your child.
- ◆ Concerns about your child's behavior, attitude and/or classroom performance.

### **What if you are not satisfied with the outcome of the meeting with the Coach?**

- ◆ Call the appropriate AD to set up an appointment to discuss the situation.
- ◆ At this meeting, the appropriate steps will be determined.

# Eligibility Guidelines

(see [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) for more information)

## Eligibility

1. A student transferring after the first day of the student's ninth grade year will be ineligible for interscholastic athletics in the member school for one year. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-7-3)

## Age Limitation

1. If a student enrolled in high school attains the age of 19 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in high school interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-2-1)

2. If a student enrolled in grade 7 or 8 attains the age of 15 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in 7-8th grade interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-2-2)

## Enrollment and Attendance

1. All students on a school athletic squad (grades 7-12) shall be enrolled and attending the school sponsoring the squad. Students enrolled in a joint vocational school are eligible at the high school where the students' records are maintained. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-3-1)

2. Enrollment and attendance in a member school shall be deemed continuous until a student has officially withdrawn from the school in accordance with that school's policies. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-3-2) Open enrollment students are considered living in the school attendance area.

3. Unless excused, a student not attending the first day of a grading period shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic contests until the 15th school day of attendance. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-3-3)

4. After a student completes the eighth grade, the student shall be eligible for a period not to exceed eight (8) semesters, regardless of the student's participation record. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-3-4).

## Scholarship

1. In order to be eligible in grades 9-12, a student must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period. During the preceding grading period, the student must have passed a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses, or the equivalent, which count toward graduation. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-4-1)

2. A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from eighth grade must have passed 75% of those subjects the student was enrolled in during the preceding grading period. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-4-3)
3. A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period, regardless of previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grade 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in 75% of those subjects in which the student received grades. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-4-4)
4. The Northwestern Board of Education requires students in grades 7-12 to maintain a minimum GPA as a condition of participation in athletics. (Board Policy IGDK): During the preceding grading period, the student must achieve a grade point average of 1.5 or higher. Students passing 5 or more credits with a grade point average of less than 1.5, will be granted conditional eligibility. Athletes on conditional eligibility will have their grades checked at the interim. If their GPA is 1.5 or higher they will be granted full eligibility for the remainder of the grading period. If their GPA is below 1.5 the student will be declared ineligible for the remainder of that grading period. Student-athletes must meet the Northwestern Board of Education GPA requirements as outlined above and the OHSAA Scholarship requirements. *Reminder: Incomplete grades are calculated as F's.*
  - a. Incoming 9th graders without an established GPA from the 8th grade will have one established at the end of the first grading period in 9th grade.
  - b. Student-athletes that do not meet the OHSAA eligibility and NHS GPA requirements may, with written parental approval, work out with the team but may not participate in scrimmages or games.
  - c. Summer School and other educational options cannot be used to substitute for failure to meet academic standards.

### **Residence**

1. A student is eligible at the public or non-public school district where the parent resides. If, however, the student is a ward of a court-appointed guardian, the student is eligible at the school district where the guardian resides, provided the student lives with the guardian. A student may be eligible at only one school. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-6-1)
  - a. When a change of “residential parent” and “legal custodian” results in a change of school districts, the student is ineligible until ruled eligible by the OHSAA Commissioner. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-6-1)
  - b. A student who does not live in the same school district as parents/

legal guardians, and who is financially self-supporting, may be ruled eligible upon approval of the OHSAA Commissioner at a school in the district where the student resides. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-6-4)

- c. A student whose parents move from the district during the school year may finish the school year and be eligible. If the student wishes to return to the school the following school year, the student must meet one of the exceptions to the residence or transfer requirements. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-6-5)

#### **Students From Foreign Countries and Exchange Students**

1. Students from countries & provinces outside the U.S. are ineligible for interscholastic athletics. EXCEPTIONS:

- a. If the student's parents move into and are legal residences of the school district in which the student is enrolled.
  - b. The student participating in an exchange program set forth in OHSAA Bylaw 4-8-1 may be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for a maximum of one school year. The student is not eligible until declared eligible by the OHSAA Commissioner.
  - c. A student may be declared eligible upon the submission of a court-approved document certifying the student's adoption by a legal resident of the school district in which the student is attending. The student is not eligible until declared eligible by the OHSAA Commissioner.
- ◆ A student may be declared eligible when the student's parents are citizens of the United States who reside outside the United States. The student is not eligible until declared eligible by the OHSAA Commissioner. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-8-1)

#### **Changing Schools - Transfers**

1. A transfer student is one who is enrolled in and attending a member school outside the district of residence of the parent or legal guardian. (OHSAA BYLAW 4-7-1) If a student transfers after the first day of the student's ninth grade year, the student will be ineligible for one year from the date of enrollment. EXCEPTIONS:

- a. If the parents/legal guardian change residence from one public school district to another public district, the student may enroll in either 1) the public school within the boundaries of that district which includes the residence of the parents or legal guardian or 2) any non-public school, and be immediately eligible insofar as transfer is concerned.
- b. A student who has completed the eighth grade and whose parents or legal guardian reside in the state of Ohio may enroll in any high school and be eligible.
- c. The school closes.

- d. A student may enroll in a school outside the district of residence of the parent and be eligible provided the superintendents of both districts enter into a written agreement that consents to the attendance and specifies that the purpose of such attendance is to protect the student's physical or mental well-being. Only one such exemption shall be permitted in any four school years. The student shall not be eligible until declared eligible by the OHSAA Commissioner upon submission of the exemption form.
- e. A student transferred to the State School for the Blind or State School for the Deaf shall be eligible upon enrollment.

## **Athletic Department & Board of Education Policies**

The community, administration and coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential components of athletic participation. It is the intent of this handbook to preserve rules that reasonably pertain to the health and safety of the individual and to the orderly conduct of sports programs.

Team coaching staffs may supplement Athletic Department rules with their own team rules, regulations and guidelines. Please refer to information received from the Head Coach. Team training rules apply during the season of participation and any event where the student represents the school (summer camp, all-star games, etc.) as a member of the squad. Each head coach will provide, in writing, a copy of these policies to each student-athlete and parent/guardian. A copy of these policies will be on file in the Athletic Office as well. A team's rules, regulations and guidelines may not contradict any rule, regulation, policy and/or penalty proscribed by the Northwestern Local Schools Athletic Participation Handbook.

The following regulations will be in effect from the time the athlete and support personnel, including managers and statisticians, begin active participation in any interscholastic program in the Northwestern Local Schools. **These regulations will be in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from August 1st through July 31st, which includes the entire school year and summer. These regulations are also in effect at both school and non-school activities.**

In the event an athlete fails to comply with these standards, it will be interpreted by the Athletic Director as an indication that the student-athlete does not have sufficient desire to participate in the athletic program. Therefore, the athlete will be denied the privilege of participating until such time as he or she can prove his/her desire.

The precise denial of participation period will depend on the violation, attitude and disciplinary history of the student-athlete. *Repeated and/or flagrant violations may result in total denial of participation from the interscholastic*

athletic program. For any athlete in violation of the athletic policy during the school year, but not during the season of his/her participation, disciplinary procedures will carry-over to the student-athlete's next consecutive season participated in.

### **1. Conduct**

Any violation of athletic policy is subject to school policy, individual sport training policy and the Athletic Participation Handbook policy.

In matters pertaining to personal conduct of athletes in which violations of sportsmanship, attacks on officials or other acts of misbehavior occur, the administration and/or the OHSAA shall have jurisdiction to determine the penalties involved and whether or not the student may continue participation in athletics. **Board of Education policy IGDJ [Adopted May 9, 1994] states, "Any student may be suspended from an athletic team, practice and/or competition for a period of time, designated by the principal, for infraction of school rules and regulations or for any other unacceptable conduct in or out of school."**

Any athlete having committed theft of school-owned uniforms/equipment shall be prosecuted and/or be expected to make restitution.

Any disciplinary problems in school or at school-related activities involving the athlete, whereby the athlete is suspended from school classes, **including placement in the Alternative Learning Center**, will result in denial of participation from all contests during the suspension period. During this period, he/she is required to be present at all practices. Failure to do so may result in removal from the team. If an out-of-school suspension is levied, he/she is not permitted to attend practices and/or contests. **For any athlete in violation of the athletic policy during the school year, but not during the season of his/her participation, disciplinary procedures will carry-over to the student-athlete's next consecutive season participated in.**

### **2. Cutting Procedures/Team Membership**

While the Athletic Department wishes to involve as many students as possible in athletics, there are times when students may be eliminated from a team for a number of reasons, including, but not limited to:

- a. Talent, attitude and work ethic of those trying out
- b. Number of individuals trying out
- c. Optimum number to conduct productive practices and ensure adequate substitutes
- d. Academic eligibility of those individuals trying out
- e. Specific sport-related skills and abilities

In a situation where it becomes necessary to eliminate students from participation on a team, the following are the minimum guidelines coaches will follow when cutting students-athletes:

- ◆ Prior to the first day of tryouts, the coach will provide a written criteria that student-athletes will be judged on. The list will be as specific as possible (e.g. “student-athlete must have a vertical jump of at least 16 inches” or “be able to make lay-ups with either hand”).
- ◆ Tryouts must last at least three (3) full practice sessions. Student-athletes will be informed of the length of that tryout period in advance.
- ◆ ‘Cut lists’ will not be used. The athlete is to be told in an individual meeting with the coach, the reasons why he/she was eliminated. If large numbers are involved, a group meeting may be necessary, but is to be coordinated and approved in advance by the AD.
- ◆ Provided the previous guidelines are followed, the coach’s decision is final in regard to all cuts.

**If a student is fortunate enough to be selected as a member of a Northwestern sports team, this does not indicate that he/she has a right to be on the team. It is a privilege to be an athlete and participate in the athletic programs at Northwestern.** Those individuals selected as members on a team shall be considered members of that team through the completion of that regular sport season, unless they are removed for disciplinary reasons, scholastic ineligibility or mutual agreement between player and coach. Coaches have the responsibility for the selection of specific squad members for tournament competition and at that time may release those members of the squad not involved in the tournament series, if they (the coaches) so desire.

### **3. Quitting or Changing Sports**

3.1 - In rare occasions, an athlete may find it necessary to quit a sport. In these instances, the following procedure must be followed:

- a. Talk with your immediate position/level coach & Head Coach
- b. Meet with the AD to discuss your situation
- c. Return all issued equipment directly to the Head Coach

**(Equipment will not be collected in the Athletic or Main Office)**

From the time a student’s name appears on the official eligibility list for a sport, he or she may not join another team or compete in another sport until after the conclusion of the first sport season. However, mid-season change of teams may be permitted under the following specific conditions:

- 3.2 - Agreement by the AD, with input of both coaches involved, that a mid-season change of sports would be beneficial to the player without being unfair to the players of either team.
- 3.3 - Without AD approval, the athlete will not be eligible to participate in any practices or conditioning until the last contest in the sport in which he/she has quit.

3.4 - Student-athletes may be permitted to participate in multiple sports during the same season, in certain situations, as determined by the AD and Head Coaches involved.

#### **4. Equipment/Uniforms**

School equipment/uniforms issued to the student-athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Excessive damage and/or loss of equipment/uniforms is the athlete's financial obligation. Failure to return equipment/uniforms in reasonable condition may result in fees/penalties, denial of future participation and the withholding of athletic awards.

#### **5. Practice Times**

Head Coaches will provide a copy of the team's practice schedule to each player and his/her family. Also, practice schedules will be listed on the school's athletic scheduling calendar. Please note that schedules may change without prior notice. Coaches will remind team members of the next day's schedule at each practice.

**In addition, no mandatory team practice may begin before 7:00am or end after 10:00pm without prior approval of the AD.**

#### **6. Missing Practice**

A student-athlete must always consult his/her coach directly before missing practice. **NEVER** rely on a teammate to deliver this message for you! Missing practice(s) or game(s) without good reason will be dealt with according to team rules.

#### **7. Travel, Conduct and Dress**

*When traveling to and from contests, student-athletes are to follow the guidelines set forth by their coach, along with all regular school bus rules. Head Coaches will set their individual team's policy in regard to athlete travel home from contests. If circumstances warrant transportation by a parent/guardian, written notice should be provided to the Coach at least one day in advance of the event and only the parent/guardian will be permitted to sign the child out following the contest, on the approved form.*

Busses will arrive 15 minutes early for loading, with teams ready to load at the scheduled time. **At no time may athletic busses pick up or drop off students at their homes or other such locations.** Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of a coach at all times when attending away contests.

When traveling, conduct and dress must be appropriate and within the guidelines of the school's dress code, Board policy and this Handbook. Coaches may also choose to mandate team dress on game days and/or when traveling to and from contests.

## **8. College Recruitment**

In the event a student-athlete should be contacted personally by a college recruiter, he/she has an obligation to work through his/her coach and the Athletic Director. Failure to inform your coach of such a contact could damage future collegiate eligibility. College recruitment information is available in the high school Athletic Office and on-line at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

## **9. Conflicts in Activities/Open Gym Policy**

The Athletic Department encourages each student to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities. However, an individual who attempts to participate in too many extra-curriculars will find themselves in a schedule conflict. Athletes must realize that they have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid such conflicts. This includes being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to occur. **Student-Athletes participating in a club sport have a responsibility to their school team and fellow teammates first in regard to practices and/or contests.**

In addition, an “in-season” athlete may not participate in “off-season” team workouts, open gyms, shoot-outs, etc. of another school-sponsored team. The exception to this policy is if an athlete is not listed on a team’s tournament roster and is then released from the team by the Head Coach. This policy does permit in-season athletes to attend open gym settings and work on **individual skill development** such as shooting, pitching and other like activities. In the spirit of this policy, Head Coaches will abide by the following guidelines: 1) the coaches of the athlete in question will meet to discuss what, if any, individual skill development activities the athlete will engage in with the in-season coach having preference in the process; 2) coaches will make every attempt to schedule off-season activities at times that will not interfere with in-season sports/athletes.

The following guidelines according to Board of Education policy IGD and IGD-R (adopted June 12, 1995) provide direction to teachers, coaches, directors, student-athletes, parents and administration so that conflicts may be resolved in a positive, productive manner that does not result in the student-athlete being placed in a difficult position.

### **Guidelines:**

- ◆ All performance activities, competitions, trips, conventions, etc., must be placed on the building calendar at the time they are scheduled.
- ◆ Curricular activities (educational field trips) will take precedence over athletic contests or practices. Every effort should be made to avoid these conflicts.
- ◆ Coaches, advisors and directors must check the building calendar to minimize the probability of conflicts developing.
- ◆ Any formal performance activity takes precedent over a practice.

- ◆ If a conflict exists, coaches, advisors and directors will resolve the conflict by utilizing an equal sharing of the student's time. This can be accomplished by the sharing of time on a given day or alternating days of attendance at the given activities.
- ◆ Preference will be given to activities which are counted as part of the grade for the extracurricular activity (e.g., band concert).
- ◆ Preference will be given to the activity where the student is actively involved as a participant versus one where they are a spectator.
- ◆ At no time will there be any negative consequences for a student who finds him/herself in an activity conflict as long as the student follows the directions provided by the advising authority.
- ◆ A spirit of cooperation and communication will be maintained among all parties to ensure the positive experience for the student.
- ◆ These guidelines are only in effect when an activity conflict exists. At all other times the policies of the specific groups will be in effect.
- ◆ If resolution is not immediately attainable by these guidelines, advisors, coaches and directors will communicate with the parent(s)/guardian(s) to further attempt to reach an agreeable solution.
- ◆ Athletic-related conflicts that have not been resolved will be directed to the Athletic Director for a decision.
- ◆ If after all previous actions a conflict still exists, the predicament will be forwarded to the building principal for a final decision.

#### **10. Recognition Night (Sports Awards Ceremony)**

All teams and individuals must attend the Recognition Night Ceremony to receive their athletic award(s) (i.e., letter, numerals, pins, certificates, trophies, etc.). All athletic awards are to be presented on Recognition Night. If athletes fail to attend Recognition Night and do not have a prior written excuse from their parent/guardian for their absence, approved by the Athletic Director, the student-athlete will reimburse the Athletic Department for costs of any awards he/she was to receive.

Presentation of special recognition awards will be followed by a refreshment & fellowship period where the athletes' family is requested to provide dessert items. After this period, each individual sport will convene to an area of the building to distribute team awards.

#### **11. Absence From School**

To be eligible for participation in practices/contests, student-athletes must be in school the **last half of the day**. Failure to do so will result in denial of participation from practices, scrimmages and/or games. Regular excused absences (field trips, doctor's appointments, funerals, etc.) **do not** prohibit a student from participating in athletics on a given day.

**Note:** *Individual situations are subject to change by the Head Coach in that sport: upon approval by the Administration.*

## **12. Hazing**

It is the position of the Northwestern Board of Education (Board Policy JFCJ, adopted May 9, 1994) that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage or engage in any hazing. Hazing will result in suspension and/or expulsion from school and denial of athletic participation.

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other like organization that uses or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any persons. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing **does not** lessen the prohibition contained herein.

Administrators, faculty members and all other employees of the district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events which might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, involved students shall be informed by the discovering school employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and shall be required to end all hazing activities immediately. **All incidents of hazing shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent of Schools.**

Administrators, faculty members, students and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in compliance with Ohio law (ORC 2307.44,2903.31).

## **13. Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs**

Athletes are prohibited from consuming, dispensing, selling, distributing and/or possessing any form of tobacco, alcohol, illegal narcotic and/or illegally used drug. Student-athletes present in a situation where any of the above is present are expected to leave the situation within five (5) minutes as continued presence could result in disciplinary proceedings. Any student-athlete or student-support personnel that violates the above policy is subject to disciplinary action as follows:

### **First Offense:**

- a. *Athlete will be removed from athletic participation for 50% of the total contests in a season, plus receive any suspension dictated by the school discipline code. The exact number of contests to be missed will be determined by the season(s) or sport(s) participated in.*

- b. For any athlete in violation of the above policy not during the season of his/her participation, disciplinary procedures will carry-over to the student-athlete's next consecutive season participated in.
- c. During this period, athlete is required to be present at all practices/contests. Failure to do so may result in removal from the team. If an out-of-school suspension is levied, he/she is not permitted on school grounds.
- d. Above suspension period may be reduced to 30% of total season contests, provided that the student-athlete receives an evaluation by a certified counselor or a physician trained in chemical dependency. The student-athlete must have a drug/alcohol screening to determine the level of involvement and attend an intervention program (screening and intervention program are at parent/guardian expense).
- e. If the student-athlete chooses to attend an intervention program, the AD must be notified by the agency of both the initiation and completion date. To qualify for the reduction in suspension, the above process must be started before the denial of participation period reaches the 30% mark.
- f. Athletes denied the privilege of athletic participation will only be reinstated, or permitted to remain on the team, at the discretion of the Athletic Director, Principal and/or Head Coach involved. If the student-athlete is reinstated, he/she will not be eligible for any athletic awards other than those determined by the Head Coach and AD.

#### Second Offense

- a. Athlete will be removed from participation in athletics for 100% of the total athletic contests in a calendar year.
- b. Athletes denied the privilege of athletic participation a second time may not participate in team practices without approval of the Athletic Director, Principal and/or Head Coach involved. If the student-athlete is approved to remain with the team, he/she will still be subject to team and Athletic Department rules, regulations and policies and will not be eligible for any athletic awards other than those determined by the Head Coach and AD.
- c. Suspension period may be reduced to 50% of the calendar year provided the student-athlete completes a complete and full dependency assessment by a certified professional counselor and follows all recommendations of the assessor which may include out-patient counseling and education, in-patient treatment, referral to another social service agency and others. This assessment, and implementation of the assessor's plan is at the expense of the student-athlete's parents/guardians. No reduction will be granted until after completion of both the assessment and recommendations have been acted upon.

#### Third Offense

- a. Athlete will be removed from participation in athletics for the remainder of his/her academic career.

- b. *As a third offense is seen as an indication that the student-athlete has no further interest in participating in athletics at Northwestern, no reduction in the privilege of athletic participation is available.*

#### **14. Inclement Weather Policy**

The Northwestern Local School's policy in regard to extracurricular contests and practices conducted on days when school has been canceled is delineated below. Factors that contribute to the cancellation of classes are varied and require evaluation of circumstances that may change significantly between 6:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

When school is canceled due to factors other than inclement weather, such as a maintenance breakdown or other extraordinary event, all contests and/or practices may be conducted as usual provided that consideration is made for student safety.

When school has been canceled due to weather related conditions like snow or ice, the following procedure will be followed:

- No practices or contests for any level below JV will be held.
- JV/Varsity activities may be conducted on days of school cancellation provided no punitive measures are taken against any athlete whose parent(s)/guardian(s) prohibit him/her from attending.
- No athletic activity of any kind may take place before 2:00 p.m.
- A travel advisory of "Level 2" or worse will result in postponement and/or cancellation of practices or contests.
- Permission to conduct practice activities must be obtained through the Athletic Director, Principal, and/or Superintendent based on projected travel conditions during the time of involvement.
- Decisions in regard to contests will be made in consultation with the ad-

### **Due Process Procedures**

As a matter of constitutional, as opposed to statutory law, a student does not have a constitutionally protected liberty or property interest in extracurricular activities. In *Glenn v. Harper*, 620 F.2d 302 (6th Cir. 1980), the district court determined that, "although the right to education is constitutionally protected, due process protection need not reach a component part of education." Therefore, athletes do not have a right to due process procedures (notice, hearing, etc.), but every effort will be made by the school administration to inform the athlete and parents of the violation and possible consequences.

When the alleged infraction of the training policy becomes known, the athlete shall be informed of the possibility of the denial of participation and the reasons for such action by the Coach, Athletic Administrator, and/or principal.

School administrators have the right to suspend the athlete from school and deny the privilege of athletic participation in accordance with the policies outlined in this handbook. Additionally, if merited, the administration may deny athletic participation for such period as deemed appropriate (including a period of time that may exceed 80 days) in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 or 3313.661.

Parents/Guardians of Northwestern student-athletes are given the opportunity to appeal all denials of athletic participation directly to the superintendent of schools, who's decision is final. If the decision is made to appeal a denial of participation, the superintendent's office must be contacted, in writing, within twenty-four (24) hours. In matters of suspension from school, the student-athlete and/or parent/guardian have the right to appeal a suspension decision to the Board of Education and the right to have the hearing held in executive session.

In the case of less serious disciplinary matters in which an athlete is removed from a curricular or extracurricular activity for a period of less than twenty-four (24) hours and is not subject to denial of participation, parental notice is not necessary.

## High School Ticket Policies

### WCAL Ticket Prices:

Adult \$5.00                  Student \$3.00

### 5 Event Pass:\*

Adult \$20.00                  Student \$8.00

### 10 Event Pass:\*

Adult \$35.00                  Student \$14.00

\*Passes may be used for any combination of events at Northwestern High School, excluding tournament or fund-raising events. Passes are transferable.

Tickets and/or passes can be purchased at the gate of all NHS contests during the fall and winter sports seasons. Make checks payable to: **NHS Athletics**

## To Earn an NHS Sports Award...

Athlete must complete the season in good standing and return any school-issued uniforms/equipment before receiving any athletic awards. The Head Coach has the right to use his/her discretion in dealing with all borderline or questionable cases of athletic awards. Seniors who play the entire season, but have not met the requirements listed below, may be awarded a varsity letter, at the discretion of the Head Coach.

In order to letter, the student-athlete must also meet the following criteria:

**Baseball & Softball:** must participate in over 50% of varsity regular-season & tournament games.

**Boys & Girls Track:** must score 11 or more team points.

**Cross Country:** must be a varsity runner (top 5 runners) in 2/3rds of meets.

**Football:** must play in 50% of all varsity quarters or start on special teams all season.

**Golf:** individual score must be used in 50% of varsity matches.

**Soccer:** must have participated and contributed in 50% of varsity regular-season and tournament games.

**Volleyball:** must play & contribute in 50% of varsity regular-season & tournament games.

**Basketball:** must play & contribute in 50% of varsity regular-season & tournament games.

**Wrestling:** must score 18 or more varsity team points.

**NOTE:** *Criteria are subject to change by the Head Coach in that sport; upon the approval of the AD.*

### NHS ATHLETIC AWARDS

**1st Year Letter winner:** Varsity 'N', sport pin and class numerals

**2nd Year Letter winner:** 4"x 6" Plaque and gold bar

**3rd Year Letter winner:** 6"x 4" Plaque and gold bar

**4th Year Letter winner:** 11"x 15" Plaque and gold bar

- ◆ A certificate is provided to those not meeting the above criteria, yet have participated as a member of the Junior Varsity squad.
- ◆ A certificate is provided to freshman athletes not meeting the above criteria for a varsity letter or JV certificate.

? Athletes who have earned varsity letters from another school may transfer their award to NHS so long as they provide proof of their letterman status to the AD (i.e. program, letter from previous AD, etc.).

## **Wayne County Athletic League (WCAL)**

### **Member Districts & School Information**

#### **Chippewa Local Schools**

Mascot: Chipps    Colors: Blue & White

**Chippewa High School**  
100 Valley View Road  
Doylestown, OH 44230  
330-658-2011

**Chippewa Middle School**  
257 High Street  
Doylestown, OH 44230  
330-658-2214

#### **Dalton Local Schools**

Mascot: Bulldogs    Colors: Orange & Black

**Dalton High School**  
177 North Mill Street  
Dalton, OH 44618  
330-828-2261

**Dalton Intermediate**  
151 West Main Street  
Dalton, OH 44618  
330-828-2405

#### **Green Local Schools**

Mascot: Smithies    Colors: Green & White

**Smithville High School**  
480 East Main Street  
Smithville, OH 44677  
330-669-3165

**Smithville Middle School**  
484 East Main Street  
Smithville, OH 44677  
330-669-2751

#### **Hillsdale Local Schools**

Mascot: Falcons    Colors: Blue & Gold

**Hillsdale High School**  
485 Township Road 1902  
Jeromesville, OH 44840  
419-368-6841

**Hillsdale Middle School**  
144 North High Street  
Jeromesville, OH 44840  
419-368-4911

#### **North Central Local Schools**

Mascot: Bobcats    Colors: Scarlet & Gray

**Norwayne High School**  
350 South Main Street  
Creston, OH 44217  
330-435-4276

**Creston Middle School**  
161 South Main Street  
Creston, OH 44217  
330-435-4255/4959

## Rittman Exempted Village

Mascot: Indians Colors: Red & Black

**Rittman High School**  
100 Saurer Street  
Rittman, OH 44270  
330-927-7155

**Rittman Middle School**  
75 North Main Street  
Rittman, OH 44270  
330-927-7101

## Southeast Local Schools

Mascot: Golden Bears Colors: Brown & Gold

**Waynedale High School**  
9050 Dover Road  
Apple Creek, OH 44606  
330-698-3071

**John R. Lea MS**  
9130 Dover Road  
Apple Creek, OH 44606  
330-698-3151



## **Non-League Opponents**

Alexander HS	6125 School Rd.	Albany, 45710	740-698-8831
Ashland HS	1440 King Rd.	Ashland, 44805	419-289-7968
Avon HS	37545 Detroit Rd.	Avon, 44011	440-934-5111
Barberton HS	555 Barber Rd.	Barberton, 44203	330-753-2255
Berea HS	165 E. Bagley Rd	Berea, 44017	440-234-5418
Black River HS	233 County Rd. #40	Sullivan, 44880	419-736-3303
Black River MS	257 County Rd. #40	Sullivan, 44880	419-736-3304
Buckeye HS	3084 Columbia Rd.	Medina, 44256	330-822-3604
Bucyrus HS	900 W. Perry St.	Bucyrus, 44820	419-562-2739
Central Christian	3970 Kidron Rd.	Kidron, 44363	330-857-7311
Clear Fork HS	987 St. Rt. 97	Belleville, 44813	419-886-2601

### Non-League Opponents (continued)

Cloverleaf HS	8525 Friendsville Rd.	Lodi, 44254	330-721-3514
Coshocton HS	1205 Cambridge Rd.	Coshocton, 43812	740-622-8519
Coventry HS	3089 Manchester Rd.	Akron, 44319	330-644-3151
Crestview HS	1575 St. Rt. 96	Ashland, 44805	419-895-1700
Danville HS	10 Rambo St.	Danville, 43014	740-599-6770
Fairless HS	11885 Navarre Rd.	Navarre, 44662	330-767-3444
Garaway HS	146 Dover Rd.	Sugarcreek, 44681	330-852-3151
Garfield HS	435 N Firestone Blvd	Akron, 44301	330-773-3468
GlenOak HS	1015 44th St. NW	Canton, 44709	330-493-5543
Harvey HS	167 W. Washington St.	Painesville, 44077	440-392-5150
Highland HS	3880 Ridge Rd.	Medina, 44256	330-239-1901
Hiland HS	PO Box 275	Berlin, 44610	330-893-3135
Hoban HS	400 Elbon Ave.	Akron, 44306	330-733-9107
Jackson HS	7600 Fulton Dr. NW	Massillon, 44646	330-837-3501
Keystone HS	301 Liberty St.	LaGrange, 44050	440-355-5132
Lexington HS	103 Clever Lane	Lexington, 44904	419-884-2105
Loudonville HS	421 Campus Ave.	Loudonville, 44842	419-994-4101
Lucas HS	5 First Ave.	Lucas, 44843	419-892-1116
Manchester HS	437 W. Nimisila	Akron, 44319	330-882-5578
Mapleton HS	635 County Rd. 801	Ashland, 44805	419-945-2188
Mansfield Madison HS	600 Esley Rd	Mansfield, 44905	419-589-2112
Mansfield Sr. HS	124 N Linden Rd	Mansfield, 44906	419-525-6344
Mapleton MS	911 US RT 224	Ashland, 44805	419-652-3540
Marlington HS	10450 Moulin Ave NE	Alliance, 44601	330-823-1300
McKinley HS	2323 17th St. NW	Canton, 44708	330-438-2720
Midview HS	38199 Caple Rd.	Grafton, 44044	440-748-5231
Mohawk HS	295 St. Highway 231	Sycamore, 44882	419-927-6292
New London HS	1 Wildcat Dr.	New London, 44851	419-929-4413
North Ridgeville HS	34600 Bainbridge Rd.	N. Ridgeville, 44039	440-353-1170

### Non-League Opponents (continued)

Northwest HS	8590 Erie Ave. N.	Canal Fulton, 44614	330-854-6398
Norton HS	4128 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd.	Norton, 44203	330-825-4167
Norwalk HS	350 Shady Lane	Norwalk, 44857	419-668-6522
Ontario HS	467 Shelby-Ontario Rd.	Mansfield, 44906	419-529-7002
Orrville HS	841 N. Ella St.	Orrville, 44667	330-682-2506
Orrville Jr. HS	217 E. Church St.	Orrville, 44667	330-682-1791
Our Lady of the Elms	1375 W. Exchange St.	Akron, 44313	330-814-0628
Regina HS	1857 S. Green Rd.	S. Euclid, 44121	216-382-2110
Sandy Valley HS	5362 St. Rt. 183 NE	Magnolia, 44643	330-866-3060
Shelby HS	109 W. Smiley Ave.	Shelby, 44875	419-342-6586
South Central HS	3305 Greenwich-Angling Rd.	Greenwich, 44837	419-752-3354
St. Mary CC HS	410 W. Jefferson St.	Sandusky, 44870	419-626-1892
St. Peter HS	104 W. First St.	Mansfield, 44902	419-524-0985
St. Thomas HS	2121 Reno Dr.	Louisville, 44641	330-845-1631
St. Vincent-St. Mary	15 N. Maple St.	Akron, 44303	330-253-9113
Tallmadge HS	484 East Ave.	Tallmade, 44278	330-633-6956
Triway HS	3205 Shreve Rd.	Wooster, 44691	330-264-8685
Triway Jr. HS	3145 Shreve Rd.	Wooster, 44691	330-264-2114
Tuslaw HS	1723 Manchester Ave.	Massillon, 44647	330-837-3511
Wadsworth HS	625 Broad St.	Wadsworth, 44281	330-336-3260
Watkins Memorial HS	8868 Watkins Rd. SW	Pataskala, 43062	740-927-3417
Wellington HS	629 N. Main St.	Wellington, 44090	440-674-3734
West Holmes HS	10909 St. Rt. 39	Millersburg, 44651	330-674-1084
Willard HS	123 Dr. LH Whisler Dr.	Willard, 44890	419-935-5181
Wooster HS	515 Oldman Rd.	Wooster, 44691	330-345-3800

For the latest information, scores and news, visit [www.nhshuskies.com](http://www.nhshuskies.com) or [www.nmshuskies.com](http://www.nmshuskies.com)

## Northwestern All-Sports Association

The Northwestern AllSports Association, the district's athletic booster club, is dedicated improving the quality of Northwestern sports. The Association does this by providing the school district with funds and equipment for all of its athletic programs, from 15 varsity sports through the pee-wee programs. Without the funds generated by the All-Sports Association, uniforms, equipment and facilities would not be what they are today. The Association needs the help of all parents, fans and community members in order to continue its important role.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month, unless a holiday, at 7:30 p.m. in the high school commons. Members can choose to volunteer at concessions, the fair Coke booths, committee work and more. Projects and activities the Association is often involved with include athletic contest concessions, the exclusive "200 Drawing," 50/50 raffles, annual scholarships, sale of "Husky Pride" items, capital improvement projects, the purchasing of T-shirts for Championship teams and much more.

Please consider joining the All-Sports Boosters Association and become an active member in this important organization. Individual membership dues are \$5.00 while a family membership is just \$10.00.

## FAQs

**Q: How do I earn a PE credit for playing a sport?**

A: Athlete & Parent must sign up for this option when registering for classes online OR complete the proper form obtained in the guidance office. See the Guidance Office for more info.

**Q: It's raining/snowing – is today's game canceled?**

A: Every attempt will be made to play contests when they are scheduled. Often decisions are made at the last second regarding snow or rain outs. Please listen to WQKT (104.5 FM) or check the website for the latest updates – please don't call the school.

**Q: School has been canceled due to snow. Are we still playing tonight?**

A: See answer directly above. Every situation results in its own decision.

## FAQs (continued)

**Q: Can I ride home from tonight's game with my boyfriend/girlfriend?**

A: NO! Only a parent/guardian may sign an athlete out following a contest. See page 22.

**Q: I was placed in In-School suspension today. Can I still play tonight?**

A: No. You are ineligible for participation in any contest while you are suspended from classes, whether in or out of school.

**Q: I was sick this morning and came to school at 1:00 – can I still play tonight?**

A: No. You are ineligible for any practice, scrimmage or contest because you were not present for the last half of the day.

**Q: Am I eligible for next season/semester?**

A: Eligibility is based on GPA & credits earned. See page 16 or the AD.

**Q: Will summer school help me become eligible?**

A: No!

**Q: Will interim grades make me eligible/ineligible?**

A: Yes, but only if you are on Academic Probation.

**Q: How do I get in touch with a Head Coach?**

A: E-mail your coach using the links on the website, call them at the number they provide you, or leave a message in their school mailbox.

**Q: I have a doctor's appointment at 10:00 am. Can I still play tonight?**

A: Yes, this would be considered an "excused absence from school."

**Q: Can I turn my uniform/equipment in to the office?**

A: No! Uniforms/equipment must be turned in directly to the Head Coach.

**Q: Why isn't my son/daughter's name in the paper?**

A: Coaches have no say in who does or does not make an article; it is all up to the author.

**Q: Why is there no story about last night's game in the paper?**

A: The local papers do the best they can, but are limited by time and budgets. Coaches will do their best to turn in information, but the final cut is made by the editors of the papers.

**Q: Do you have a map/directions to tonight's contest?**

A: Each office has a very old book of maps to OHSAA schools that can be copied for you. However, if you view our contest schedules on-line, you can acquire a Mapquest map & driving directions to away events.

*"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes up short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end of the triumph of high achievements; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither defeat nor victory."*

*Theodore Roosevelt — April 10, 1899*



**Northwestern High School**

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**WCAL Statement on SPORTSMANSHIP**

Good Fans are Supportive, Positive and Respectful.

WCAL Schools have a Zero Tolerance for Swearing, Obscene Gestures, Noisemakers, Inappropriate Signs, and Generally Obnoxious and Disrespectful Fan Behavior.

Treat Coaches, Players, Officials and Fans with Respect and Courtesy.

Violators may be removed!