

I. ELIGIBILITY

A. HOME SCHOOL AND PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY-as mandated by W.I.A.A. it is required to have an academic profile on file at the Lopez Island School District. The profile will describe courses of studies taken and assessment of results for each.

- a. Participation: An important goal for middle school activities is participation. Rules and guidelines for behavior will take this into account, as well as the important lessons learned from adhering to prescribed expectations that exist for the total team benefits. Eligibility requirements will take into account the uniqueness of the adolescent, the length of the seasons, the number of events possible to participate in during a season, and the close relationship between the teacher and the student.
- b. All students participating in extracurricular athletics:
 1. Must maintain acceptable citizenship. (Middle School Behavioral Handbook)
 2. May not be failing a course, or receiving more than one "D" grade in a core class. Special circumstances can be referred to the Hardship Committee for consideration.
 3. Will have satisfactory attendance.
 4. No student may participate in extracurricular athletics with any detention to make up.
- c. Consequence for ineligibility:
 1. One game suspension.
 2. Recommendations for opportunities to make up class work
 - i. Study Table
 - ii. Before or after school
 - iii. Missed travel and or game time.
- d. The ineligible student should attend practices to remain an integral part of the team, but may not participate in competition.
- e. Eligibility checks will be completed for all team members each week of the season.
- f. Team members will be advised of their eligibility status at their first practice after the eligibility check. Parents will also be notified.
- g. Hardship Committee
 1. Members of the committee will include one school board member, one teacher, the counselor, the athletic director, and the principal.
 2. The committee will hear eligibility requests for special consideration submitted by a student athlete, or the parent of a student athlete.
 3. The person making the request will
 - *submit a written request at least one day in advance of the hearing,
 - *and, be present to meet with the committee to discuss the request.
 4. It is recommended that the student be accompanied by a parent, or another adult, who can act as an advocate for him or her.

B. ATTENDANCE: To participate in an athletic contest the athlete must be in school:

- a. A full day on the day of the event, or
- b. A full day on the day before the event, if it takes place on Saturday.
- c. In their first period class no later than 30 minutes after the class starts.

EXCEPTION: An exception may be made by the principal only if deemed in the best interests of the student and the team. The exception must be requested in writing by the parent of the athlete by 9:00 a.m. the day before the event.

Students with a pattern of unexcused absences will not be eligible to participate in the athletic program for the remainder of the season.

C. RECORDS: To participate on any athletic team (including practice) a student must have the following records on file in the secondary school office:

- a. Written permission from the parent authorizing the student to participate in the selected sport.
- b. A copy of a current physical exam signed by the physician.
- c. Emergency medical information that includes a statement from the parents regarding their expectations should the student need emergency treatment and the parent cannot be reached for authorization.
- d. Documentation of insurance.
- e. Purchase an Associated Student Body card, and pay the appropriate sports fee.

D. TRAVEL When traveling to other schools for athletic contests, student athletes will:

- a. Travel to and from contests in transportation **deemed acceptable** ~~provided~~ by the school. The only exceptions are:
 1. Injury to a participant that would require alternate transportation.
 2. Prior arrangement between the participant's parent/guardian and the head coach/principal for the student to ride with the parent/guardian to/from the event. Permission must be requested in writing.
 3. Abide by the rules established for extracurricular activities.
 4. Dress appropriately and in good taste.
 5. Obey the laws of the State of Washington and rules of the Lopez Island Middle School.
 6. Conduct themselves courteously while on ferries and buses.
 7. Use the time on ferry trips, occurring during school time, to the mainland for studying, reading or completing homework assignments.
 8. Remain at all times with the squad and under the supervision of the coaches.
 9. Refrain from criminal acts of any type. The use of alcohol, drugs, stealing, and vandalism will not be tolerated at school or during school-sponsored activities.

Involvement in criminal acts while on school-sponsored activities will result in immediate suspension, probably team dismissal and possible criminal prosecution.

When traveling to other schools, coaches will announce locations at which teams will depart for each game and locations at which team members will be released after returning. Anyone needing to join or leave the team at another point must have written parental permission, approved by the coach and principal, on file at the high school office at 9:00 a.m. the day before the event. Permission will be approved only if it is deemed to be in the interest of that student and the team.

E. ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND TOBACCO

The use of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco in any form is illegal, and in violation of W.I.A.A. rules, Lopez Island School District's "Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook," and "Middle School-Behavioral Expectations Handbook." Team members are encouraged to confidentially contact the school counselor or a "safe person," to discuss substance use/abuse by others.

Dismissal from the team will occur on the first offense, or the team member has the option of taking a two week game suspension and actively participating in a Substance Abuse Program, (i.e. San Juan Recovery evaluation, AA, Intervention Specialists Group or a Lopez Family Resource Center support program). The suspended team member is required to bring evidence of participation in a Substance Abuse Program to the Athletic Director in order to be eligible for the second week. Immediate dismissal from the team will occur on the second offense.

Athletes are cautioned to avoid parties where they may encounter alcohol, drugs or behavior in violation of athletic rules pertaining to conduct or training.

Drug (including alcohol) infractions will be referred to the principal. Violations that occur during a school activity or the school day will also result in regular school sanctions (see Behavioral Expectations, #5).

F. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES

When an athlete does not follow the athletic rules and regulations, the appropriate consequences will be applied. When disciplinary action becomes necessary, the following will apply:

- a. The head coach will be the first line of authority regarding misconduct. The principal will become involved when appropriate.
- b. All actions leading to penalties, probation, suspensions, or dismissals, will be based on factual knowledge.
- c. Any situation not covered specifically in the Lopez Island Middle School and High School Activities Policy will be handled by the coach in cooperation with the high school principal.
- d. Students may appeal disciplinary decisions using the procedure outlined in their "Student's Rights and Responsibilities Handbook."

Implemented: 8/03

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