

ATHLETIC CODE

Philosophy

The philosophy of the athletic program at Centreville Public Schools is to provide opportunities for student athletes to participate in athletic competitions. In addition, it is believed that the individual dedication and discipline required of a student athlete will assist the student athlete in developing excellent habits for the individual's future.

Student athletes shall at all times represent Centreville Public Schools with behavior that shall bring credit to the individual and the school.

Our athletic program will be directed so that the welfare of all students will be the primary concern. All students will be encouraged to participate in the athletic program. While broad participation in the program is to be stressed, students will be made aware that it is a privilege to participate.

We will continue to develop and improve programs that enhance our student's athletic performance. High standards, integrity, and sportsmanship will be promoted. Our goal is that each and every athlete will bring pride to the entire community.

Michigan High School Athletic Association, Inc.

Centreville Public Schools is a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. The purposes of the MHSAA are as follows:

- ❖ Increase and promote the educational value of extracurricular athletic programs throughout the state.
- ❖ Assist member institutions in their regulation of extracurricular athletic eligibility and competition.
- ❖ Promote uniformity, predictability and competitive equity in the application of eligibility rules for athletic contests.
- ❖ Promote the physical welfare of participating students.

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Objectives of the Athletic Program

- A. To develop strong minds and healthy bodies in young men and women.
- B. To develop student athletes who learn to relate well to teammates, coaches, parents, opponents, and other adults. To develop a good working relationship with their fellow man and to become a productive individual in society.
- C. To help the student athlete learn responsibility and leadership.
- D. To develop a respect for the democratic principles upon which this nation was founded.
- E. To give the student athlete a knowledge and control of physical skills which may be used in life for recreational and leisure time.
- F. To give opportunities for maturing and learning as a young person beyond the academic world and to learn more about life from athletic competition.

Playing Time

Centreville Public Schools is committed to offering an athletic program that will benefit our students. Consequently, we have developed the following playing time guidelines. We believe these will best enhance our athletic program and best serve our student athletes.

- A. **Middle School and Freshman Level:** The goals of middle school and freshman team level sports include teaching fundamentals of the sport, emphasizing sportsmanship, and providing practice and competition for all participants. Winning, as a goal, should be balanced with participation.
- B. **Jr. Varsity Level:** Coaches should balance student-athletic participation with the success of the team. Fundamentals of the sport, emphasizing sportsmanship, and providing practice and competition for all participants are goals. Coaches should stress to all participants that each athlete is an important contributor to the team, but that playing time may not be afforded equally to all. Maximum student-athletic game participation is stressed but not mandated at this level.
- C. **Varsity Level:** The success of the team is the main goal at this level. Student athletes should learn that all participants are working together for the good of the team. Game participation is handled exclusively by the coaching staff. Although playing time will be provided for as many student athletes as possible, the success of the team will be paramount. Coaches should stress to all participants that each

athlete is an important contributor to the team, but that playing time cannot be afforded equally to all. Maximum student-athletic game participation is stressed but not mandated at this level.

Rules and Regulations

- A. A student is considered a student athlete from the date he/she signs the Athletic Pledge for the following 365 days. It is mandatory that all Athletic Code rules be followed by the student athlete.
- B. Student athletes are representatives of the school on and off the field or floor. They are expected to conduct themselves at all times so they are a credit to their family, school and community.
- C. After participating in formal practice, a high school student will be considered a "team member". He/she may not then decide to change sports unless there is mutual agreement between the coaches, AD and/or administration.
- D. **Quitting.** The athlete must meet with the coach and AD to discuss being released in good standing. If the athlete does not meet with the coach and AD, he/she will sit out 20% of the next sport season in which they participate. Quitting is a major violation.
- E. **School Attendance.** All student athletes are expected to have satisfactory school attendance. They are expected to be in attendance ALL DAY the "day of" the competition. In case of Saturday competition, they are expected to be in attendance ALL DAY the "day before" competition. Any exceptions must be administratively approved by the principal or AD prior to the absence. Any absence during the day will make the student ineligible for competition for the day of absence or the next day with Saturday contest. Repeated absences the day after an event shall be considered a chronic minor violation.
- F. **Practice Attendance.** Student athletes are expected to be at practice unless ill, or for some personal reason that has been presented to, and accepted by the coach PRIOR to practice.
- G. **Riding Home With Parents.** Students, who wish to ride home with their parents from an athletic event, must bring a note from a parent to school for

administrative approval no later than the day of the competition. We encourage team togetherness. We are aware, however, that families may have plans that require special considerations. We will attempt to facilitate each of your requests as necessary.

- H. **Physical Cards**. Each student participating in athletics is required to have a physical card on file in the Athletic Office. Physicals are given each spring for a nominal fee or a student can have the card completed by his/her family doctor. Any students not having a completed **physical card dated after April 15th** will not be allowed to participate in athletic practices or competition.
- I. **Proof of Insurance**-will be required before each sport season (or proof of school insurance). Centreville Public Schools does not cover insurance for athletes.
- J. **Good Standing**-Each athlete must finish the season in good standing before Being able to start a new season/sport. This includes uniforms being turned in and fees being paid.

Academic Eligibility

- A. **Grades**. Student athletes are expected to maintain a high scholastic standard. If you are having trouble, see your teacher. Do not wait until it is too late.
1. Two "E's", updated on a weekly basis (based on cumulative semester grades) in different subjects, will render a student-athlete ineligible for the following week of competition.
 2. High school ineligibility is Monday through Saturday. Junior high ineligibility is Tuesday through Monday.
 3. An incomplete is considered an "E". There are no "I's".
 4. A student who fails two classes in a semester will be ineligible for athletics the following semester. A student who receives a citizenship evaluation of 4 (poor) in two (2) classes shall be ineligible for one (1) week. A student who receives a 4 and an E in two separate subjects shall be ineligible for one (1) week.
 5. Practice time for students ineligible for a second consecutive week is at the discretion of the coach.
 6. If a student is ineligible for three (3) weeks of a season(not necessarily in succession), he/she will meet with a committee that will determine if the student will remain a team member. This committee would consist of one coaching staff member, one non-coaching staff member, the AD, and the principal.
 7. MHSAA requirements state that a high school student must be passing at least 20 credit hours when eligibility is checked.

Athletic Violations

- A. **Minor Violations**. Minor violations shall be defined by the Student Code of Conduct in the student handbook. Some examples of minor violations include such things as: use of profanity, behavior which infringes on the rights of others, missed practices, and other minor disciplinary problems which come under this definition including training rules and regulations. Minor violations shall in all cases be handled by the coach.
- B. **Major Violations**: Major violations shall be defined by the Student Code of Conduct. Some examples of major violations include:
1. Possession or use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs.
 2. Knowingly attend a gathering of students where the athlete knows or should reasonably know that alcohol or drugs are being used. If an athlete unknowingly attends a gathering of students where alcohol or illegal drugs are being used or consumed, that student must immediately leave the gathering. In addition the athlete and/or his/her parent(s) must immediately contact the athlete's coach, the athletic director, or the principal to acknowledge the athlete's attendance at such an activity.
 3. Committing acts of gross misconduct.
 4. Quitting
 5. Chronic minor violations
- C. **Major Violation Penalties**
1. The penalty for the first violation is that the student athlete will be ineligible for 20% of the competitions of their existing sports season or for athletes currently not on a sport roster the next sport season in which they participate. A cancelled game is not considered a competition.
 2. The student athlete will also be on a one (1) year probation.
 3. The head coach of the sport involved will decide whether the student athlete may continue to practice or scrimmage with the team for the period of the suspension.
 4. The second major violation of the student/athlete that occurs during the calendar year after the date of the first major violation will result in a one calendar year suspension from the date of the second suspension and/or subsequent violation.

- D. Appeals Process. If a student wishes to appeal a suspension, the appeal must be filed with the AD or Principal within 48 hours (excluding weekends) of the notification. An Athletic Appeals Committee consisting of one coaching staff member, one non-coaching staff member, AD and Principal will meet and decide to deny or uphold the suspension within 48 hours (excluding weekends). All decisions by the Athletic Appeals Committee may be appealed to the Superintendent in writing within 48 hours (excluding weekends). The Superintendent will decide to deny or uphold the suspension within 48 hours (excluding weekends). The student may appeal to the Board of Education in writing within 48 hours of the Superintendent's decision. The Board of Education will deny or uphold the appeal within 5 days.
- E. Students serving a one-year suspension or probation could ask for reinstatement by the Athletic Committee after six months. The core committee would consist of Junior High and/or High School Principal, Athletic Director, counselor, head coach and a non-coaching teacher. Additional members such as teachers and community members may be added if deemed appropriate.

Freshman on Varsity Teams

The following procedure will be used when a freshman student/athlete is being considered for participation at the "varsity team" level at Centreville Schools in the following sports: football, girls and boys basketball, volleyball, cheerleading, baseball, softball, golf and wrestling.

- A. The varsity coach will discuss with the Athletic Director and the freshman student athlete in question and provide a rationale for this request.
- B. With the Athletic Director's approval, the varsity coach will discuss with the parents of this student athlete the possibility of "varsity level" competition.
- C. If the parents and student athlete are in agreement that this freshman is physically, mentally, and emotionally ready for varsity level competition, then a letter of agreement will be placed on file and a copy given to all parties involved. The student, parents/guardians, varsity coach, and AD will sign the agreement. It is to be understood that at each level of the above procedure, the most important concern is to always do what is in the best interest of the student athlete in question.

Athletic Doubling

Any student who desires to participate in two sports at the same time must:

1. Obtain an approval form from the AD
2. Seek academic approval from the counselor,
3. Choose a primary and secondary sport,
4. Secure parental approval,
5. Get approval from the coaches of both sports, and
6. Get approval from the AD

The signatures of the counselor, parents/guardians, coaches, and AD are required.

The student will then meet with the AD to establish the priority of conflicting competitions based on the following guidelines:

1. League competition takes precedence over non-league competition,
2. District, regional or state competition takes precedence over other competitions, and
3. High level of state competition takes precedence over lower levels of state competition.

The Athletic Director has the responsibility to oversee this regulation.

Sportsmanship Expectations from the MHSAA

OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE.....

- * Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and community.
- * Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- * Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students and elementary students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- * Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than yourselves can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport?
- * Refrain from taunting, trash talking or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature. Refrain from intimidating behavior.
- * Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner that you would like to be greeted following either victory or defeat.
- * Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive improvement of you and your team in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.
- * Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity. Avoid excessive celebrating after a play or end of a game.

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**CENTREVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ATHLETIC PLEDGE**

I fully understand that to participate in athletics at Centreville Public Schools, I must comply with all of the standards of training set up by the Athletic Department and the coaches.

I also realize that I should conduct myself at all times in a manner that is becoming to myself, my family, my community and my school. Violation of this pledge will cost me the privilege of representing my school in any form of athletics.

Athletic Risks. I fully understand and realize that participation in athletic sports includes the potential risk of injury. I also know that each sport is unique in its potential risk for injury. I agree to be careful, follow the coach's training rules, and report all injuries to my coach immediately.

(Signature of Athlete)

(Signature Date)

I have read and fully understand the pledge my son or daughter has signed.

(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

(Signature Date)

All student athletes are required to be covered with a minimal level of health insurance in order to participate in MHSAA interscholastic sports.

If you have health insurance coverage, please fill in the information needed below. If you do not presently have health insurance coverage, you can purchase the necessary minimal coverage through the group plan offered by 1st Agency. **If you desire this coverage, you must purchase the health insurance before participating in any sport.** Please see your coach or the athletic director for any details.

Students without insurance coverage will not be allowed to participate in any athletic program. It is your responsibility to contact the Athletic Office if your insurance coverage changes during the school year.

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

PARENT NAME _____

STUDENT NAME _____ **GRADE** _____

FAMILY HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT _____