

Winnacunnet High School

Student Athlete - Parent Handbook



**The Trademark of Athletics is
Citizenship**

2018-2019

Winnacunnet High School Interscholastic Athletic Program

FALL

Boys Cross Country
Girls Cross Country
Freshman Field Hockey
JV Field Hockey
Varsity Field Hockey
Freshman Football

JV Football
Varsity Football
Varsity Golf
Freshman Boys Soccer
JV Boys Soccer
Varsity Boys Soccer
Freshman Girls Soccer

JV Girls Soccer
Varsity Girls Soccer
Varsity Spirit
Freshman Volleyball
JV Volleyball
Varsity Volleyball
Bass Fishing

WINTER

Freshman Boys Basketball
JV Boys Basketball
Varsity Boys Basketball
Freshman Girls Basketball
Boys Alpine Skiing
Girls Alpine Skiing

JV Girls Basketball
Varsity Girls Basketball
Boys Varsity Ice Hockey
Varsity Spirit
Boys Cross Country Skiing
Girls Cross Country Skiing
Girls Varsity Ice Hockey

Girls Indoor Track
Boys Indoor Track
Varsity Swimming & Diving
JV Wrestling
Varsity Wrestling
Coed Bowling

SPRING

Freshman Baseball
JV Baseball
Varsity Baseball
Boys Freshman Lacrosse
Boys JV Lacrosse
Boys Varsity Volleyball

Boys Varsity Lacrosse
Girls JV Lacrosse
Girls Varsity Lacrosse
Freshman Softball
JV Softball

Varsity Softball
Boys Varsity Tennis
Girls Varsity Tennis
Boys Track & Field
Girls Track & Field

All information highlighted in gray is new or revised information beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.

FOREWARD

Interscholastic athletics provides an opportunity for students to participate in the total educational experience. What you do to succeed in sport reflects what you need to succeed in life. Sport and life are connected because good character matters in both. Sportsmanship, fair play and respect are all components of character. Practicing sportsmanship means practicing an attitude of respect. Respect is given not just for success or failure but for effort, attitude, and how you treat others. After the game is over, how you played the game with dignity will long be remembered as your success as a person.

This handbook is written to help you better understand and appreciate the purpose and goals of the athletic program at Winnacunnet High School. Please read this booklet carefully and make sure you understand the commitment you are about to make.

Best of luck to you in your upcoming seasons. I hope you are able to attain your individual goals, team goals, and more importantly that your experience with our athletic program is a positive one.

Carol Dozibrin, Director of Athletics

It's amazing how much can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.

John Wooden

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

You are a member of a Winnacunnet High School athletic squad. We hope this experience will prove to be a deep, meaningful one and that its benefits will remain with you for the rest of your life.

However, the attainment of a goal, or any other worthwhile objective, always carries with it certain traditions to be lived up to and responsibilities to be met. A great tradition is not built overnight; it takes the hard work of many boys and girls over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad at Winnacunnet High School, you are helping to establish a wonderful tradition.

Our tradition at Winnacunnet High School is to win with honor. We desire to win but only when it brings honor to our athletes, our school, and our communities. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned.

It is not always easy for you to commit yourself as a member of a Winnacunnet High School athletic squad. However, the contributions you make should be a very satisfying accomplishment to you personally now and in the years ahead.

When you wear the Royal Blue, White and Scarlet of Winnacunnet High School, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but are willing to assume the responsibilities that go along with them.

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 high school experiences. Your studies and your participation in other extra-curricular activities, as well as sports, all help prepare you for your future. Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Winnacunnet High School cannot achieve a position as one of the outstanding schools in the state unless you do your best in whatever activity you engage. By participating in athletics to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You automatically assume a leadership role when you become a member of an athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the communities know you. You are on the stage with the spotlight on you and your team. The student body, the home communities, and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Winnacunnet High School and the area towns proud by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.

As a squad member, you also bear a heavy responsibility to your home. If you never give your parents 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 all of the training rules, that you have practiced to the best of your ability every day, and that you have played the game all out, you have earned self-respect and your family can be justly proud of you.

The younger girls and boys in the area middle and elementary schools are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Do not let them down. Give them high ideals to shoot for.

Your coach's primary purpose is to help you grow into the right kind of adult. In order to be successful, however, you must help yourself toward the same goal by following the training rules set forth.

You assume many responsibilities when you don the Royal Blue and Scarlet of Winnacunnet High School. We sincerely hope that you enjoy your experience and live up to these responsibilities. Remember you are building a life. The kind of athlete you are today foretells the kind of adult you will be tomorrow.

RULES OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

The athlete should keep in mind that fair play is applauded and that one who stoops to underhanded methods is soon discovered. In order to practice good sportsmanship, you must live up to the following rules:

- Play the game for the game's sake.
- Be generous in winning.
- Be gracious in losing.
- Be fair at all times, no matter what it costs.
- Be obedient to the rules.
- Work for the good of the team.
- Accept gracefully the decision of the officials.
- Believe in the honesty of your opponents.
- Conduct yourself, at all times with honor and dignity.
- Recognize and applaud honestly and wholeheartedly the efforts of your teammates and opponents.

Each student must show respect for the opponent and officials at all times. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of others and suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.

RULES OF CONDUCT

The following list of training standards and rules of conduct consist of the essentials necessary to maintain team discipline, rules of hygiene, good citizenship, scholarship, and favorable public relations. We feel it to be fair so that enforcement will be accepted by all concerned.

Citizenship and Sportsmanship:

In the eyes of the teacher and the public, citizenship is synonymous with sportsmanship. Any act of unsportsmanlike conduct in practice or games will lead to immediate disciplinary action which may include suspension or dismissal from the squad.

No Smoking or Other Use of Tobacco Products:

(See Athletic Contract)

It has been proven that smoking and chewing are harmful to your health. The use of tobacco products by Winnacunnet High School athletes is prohibited, regardless of age. It is a violation of the contract. When you smoke or chew, you harm the team, the sport, and the school. The people who follow your progress are careful to note your habits and any deviation from the accepted training rules. Just one squad member who breaks the rule can brand the whole squad as non-trainers. Smoking or any other use of tobacco products at any time will not be allowed.

No Drinking or Other Drugs:

(See Athletic Contract)

You may be subjected to pressure from your peers to join in on the fun or to have a few drinks after the game. Use of alcohol and other drugs is illegal. Alcohol is a depressant that affects the brain centers of control. While under the influence of alcohol, the athlete may get hurt, hurt others or commit crimes they otherwise would never have considered. Performance related side effects include reduced strength, power, muscular and cardiovascular endurance and speed. There is no justification for athletes ever using alcoholic beverages.

There is no place in sports for the use of performance-enhancing drugs (steroids, stimulants, etc.) or recreational use drugs (marijuana, cocaine, etc.) Drug abuse is a major problem today and athletes who use them are abusing their bodies and hurting their team. The possession, use or sale of drugs will not be allowed.

Proper Conduct and Dress:

Not only is appearance important in presenting a proper image, but it is conducive to developing a feeling of self-respect and of being a member of the group.

Dress:

All squad members will be expected to dress presentably on all road trips.

Profanity:

Swearing and abusive language will not be permitted at any time.

Care of Team Equipment and Uniforms:

All athletic gear is on loan to the athlete and you are personally responsible for its care and return. Lost **uniforms and equipment** must be reported to the coach immediately and if not found, you will be charged the **replacement cost** for it. Proven theft will be dealt with under the contract rules.

Transportation:

All athletes must travel to and from away contests in transportation provided by the school. Coming to and going from the game with friends and parents destroys team unity. The philosophy that win or lose, we stay together will be held by the team. Exceptions to this rule must be made in writing, dated and signed to the Director of Athletics by fax, email or hand delivered note at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled departure time. The parent must identify him/herself to the coach prior to leaving with the student athlete.

All sports participants are required to remain at the site where the athletic event is occurring, be it a school building, athletic field, or municipal/private property, from their time of arrival until departure, following the end of the athletic event, by school bus or private conveyance.

School Attendance:

Athletes who are absent from school are ineligible to compete or practice on that day.

Exceptions to this rule must be made through the Coach AND the Director of Athletics. It is the expectation that all student athletes will be in attendance for the whole day in order to practice and/or play. Student athletes must be in attendance *no less than* half the school day (7:45-11:05 AM or 11:05 AM-2:30 PM), unless prior approval is given by the school administration for the student to be absent. The Director of Athletics must be notified of deviations from this rule. Athletes are expected to be in school and on time the day following an athletic event.

Any student who serves an in school or out of school suspension may not participate in the practice session or the game/meet on the day(s) in which the suspension occurred. If the student is too ill to stay in school, he/she is too ill to return to play or practice that day.

Practice/Game Attendance:

Regular attendance at all practices and games along with promptness is imperative. Absences will be excused only for illness or school sponsored events. Realizing emergency/individual situations may occur, the Coach and Director of Athletics will have the final say in excusing an athlete, providing notification is given prior to the absence. Unexcused absence from a game or continued unexcused absences from practice would result in dismissal from the team.

Police Record:

Involvement in any type of police action where the guilt is proven (with the exception of a traffic ticket) may lead to dismissal from the squad.

Injuries:

Be sure to report all injuries to your coach and athletic trainer no matter how minor they may seem. The athlete that thought the small blister was nothing ended up missing the “big” game.

Insurance:

Students participating in interscholastic sports are not automatically covered by school insurance. All athletes are not required to take the school insurance, but we strongly urge that you do as this policy will cover you for all sports at a minimal cost. All students will be given the opportunity to buy an insurance policy. Detailed information concerning the benefits of this policy is outlined in the form that is distributed to each student in the fall.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION***Physical Examination:***

A physical examination is required of all athletes prior to the first practice session. **Physical exams must take place after June 1, 2018.** The physical will be honored for the entire school year.

Access Sports Medicine offers sports physicals for \$5.00 in July and August from 5-7PM. The dates this year are:

Thursday	JULY 26 th	19 Webb Place	Dover, NH	603-842-4289
Tuesday	JULY 31 st	155 Borthwick Ave	Portsmouth, NH	603-431-3575
Tuesday	AUGUST 7 th	6 Freetown Rd	Raymond, NH	603-895-6224
Thursday	AUGUST 9 th	1 Hampton Rd	Exeter, NH	603-775-7575

Convenient MD offers sports physical as well. They are located at 1 Portsmouth Ave. Exeter 603-772-3600

We encourage you to see your own physician for a physical exam but if the date is not between June 1, 2018 and the start of the season, take advantage of this opportunity. If you have a family history of an illness or a concern about your health, please see your primary care physician who can make the necessary referral for you.

We want all athletes and students to remain healthy and safe. We have a partnership with Access Sports Medicine for athletic training purposes and all athletes in grades 9 and 11 take an ImPACT baseline test so that if they sustain a concussion, doctors can compare the current reading to the baseline. Physicians complete an ACE form once a concussion is diagnosed and report back so that we know the athletic and academic modifications needed for the student. These accommodations help to get the student back on track in the classroom and in athletics.

Athletic Contract:

An athletic contract signed by the student athlete and the parent/guardian must be on file on the FamilyID website before you are eligible to participate in any sport.

Clean Locker and Gear:

It is your responsibility to keep and maintain a locked, neat and tidy locker, as well as practice and game gear.

Sports Transfer and Competing in More Than One Sport:

No athlete will be allowed to change sports in the same season unless it is completely agreeable to both coaches involved and is deemed to be in the true interest of the athlete.

No athlete shall compete in more than one sport at Winnacunnet High School during any given season. Any exceptions must be approved by the Director of Athletics and the coaches involved.

Dropping from a Sports Team:

As an athlete you owe it to yourself, your parents, your team, and your coach when dropping from a team to follow the procedure outlined herein. First you should inform your parents of your decision and then you should immediately inform your coach. The coach should be given the reasons for this action. All school sports equipment and uniforms must be turned in to the Director of Athletics following this conference with the coach. If your decision was sound and you follow the above procedure, then you have kept your good name and will not be thought of as a quitter by all concerned.

Sports Banquet:

These banquets are held in your honor so you can be recognized for your efforts. It is your responsibility to make every effort to attend. If you cannot attend, the coach should be informed.

Awards:

In all cases, the judgment of your head coach will be the deciding factor in determining who will be awarded a letter. Some possible guidelines that will be used by the coach in making this decision are as follows:

- Amount of participation in the games/meets during the season
- Completion of the season--The definition of the sport season is the first day of practice up to and including the sports banquet and/or awards night
- Return of all equipment and uniforms and/or paid all fines and obligations

At the beginning of a sports season the coach will inform the team members what an athlete has to do to qualify for a school letter in that sport.

Equipment and Uniform Turn In:

All equipment and/or uniforms must be returned in order for a student to participate in the next sports season. Students will have to meet with the Director of Athletics and return all school owned equipment and/or uniforms or pay the replacement cost before participation in the next season is allowed.

Senior Plaques:

A super award plaque is given to any senior athlete who has earned ten or more varsity letters during his/her four years of high school.

The Value of Training:

The duration of an athletic contest may last for only a short time while the training for it may take many weeks of arduous work and continuous exercise and self-effort. The real value of the sport is not the actual game played but the hours of dogged determination and self-discipline carried out alone, imposed and supervised by an exacting conscience. Work hard in practice and the rewards will be felt throughout your life.

Eligibility:

The years in which you represent your high school in interscholastic athletic competition conducted under the auspices of the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) may be the most enjoyable years in your young life. As you compete, you will have local rules and regulations that you must follow.

The NHIAA also has rules and regulations incorporated into the Association's constitution and by-laws to which students, as well as school personnel must adhere, as follows:

NHIAA By-Law Article II - Eligibility**Preface**

Eligibility regulations of the NHIAA apply to each category of interscholastic participation: Varsity and sub-varsity levels. Students entering grade nine in the fall for the first time do not have to meet the Scholastic Standing requirements of By-Law Article II, Section 2. Subsequent to their initial entry during the first fall marking period of their grade nine year they must meet the minimum requirement for Scholastic Standing. All other standards for eligibility must be met. In order to represent a member school in interscholastic athletics, a student must be in attendance as a full time student in the district where his/her parents/guardians legally reside. (Exception: Charter, Home Educated and Non Public Students-Sect.13). No students will represent their school in an interscholastic athletic event unless the principal of that school has certified the student's eligibility through the official Eligibility Affidavit as filed with the NHIAA.

The sole responsibility for determining athletic eligibility rests with the principal of the school. The principal is the official representative of the school at all hearings and appeals. This responsibility cannot be delegated unless prior approval from the NHIAA has been granted.

Sect. 1: Age of Contestants

A student who has reached the age of 19 on or after September 1 may represent the school in any interscholastic athletic contest during that school year.

Rationale for Age of Contestants Rule: An age limitation requirement: provides commonality between student-athletes and schools in interscholastic competition; inhibits “red shirting,” allows the participation of younger and less experienced players; enhances the opportunity for more students to participate; promotes equality of competition; avoids over-emphasis on athletics, and helps to diminish the risk of injury associated with participation in interscholastic athletics. To ensure equality of competition and opportunity, a standard must be established at some point to determine the cut-off date for age eligibility. Use of a specific cut-off date gives notice to all parties involved in interscholastic athletics and maintains equality of participant eligibility among schools.

Sect. 2: Scholastic Standing

- A. No pupil who has failed to pass four (4) units of work* during the school’s previous grading period** shall represent the school in any interscholastic contest. A minimum of four (4) units of work per grading period is required for participation in interscholastic athletics. Schools utilizing alternative scheduling formats like block scheduling or trimesters should calculate and equate their system to meet the intent of passing 4 units of work in a traditional format (i.e. in a 4 x 4 block program the student would need to pass a minimum of 2 subjects to meet the standard). Recognizing that schools are increasingly moving away from the Carnegie Unit/seat time hours for instruction and grading, it is expected that the school principal will follow the intent of the by-law when certifying academic eligibility for student athletes. For example, a student could meet this requirement through a virtual school, off site real world learning, on-line classes, etc. as long as the school officially recognizes and certifies the activities to be academically legitimate and part of the school’s educational program.

The Winnacunnet High School academic eligibility policy is stricter than the NHIAA policy and states that in order to be eligible for interscholastic athletics at Winnacunnet High School, a student must pass a minimum of FIVE classes in the trimester immediately preceding the respective athletic season. If the season spans two trimesters, the student must remain eligible based on the grades received during the subsequent marking period. Only courses where credit is awarded will be considered for academic eligibility. The ***trimester*** grade determines the eligibility status. Academic eligibility will be determined on the date that report cards are mailed home.

THE WINNACUNNET HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY SUPERCEDES THE NHIAA SCHOLASTIC STANDING POLICY.

Students will be awarded scholar athlete status if they make honor roll or high honor roll during the previous marking period.

Definitions:

1. **Grading Period:** Not less than six (6) weeks.
2. **Previous Grading Period:** Indicates the last prior grading period of the school year (not semester grades)
3. **Passing Grade:** As determined by the NHIAA individual member high schools.

* A unit of work reflects a course that meets the equivalent of 5 times per week in a traditional Carnegie Unit format.

** This is interpreted as the school's previous grading period, not the student's previous grading period.

- B. Academic Make-Ups: A student may regain eligibility by making up academic deficiencies, failures, or incompletes of the regular school year through academic/credit recovery programs completed prior to the first date to play in a sport as listed in By-Law Article XXXVI of the NHIAA Handbook. Individual schools may adopt more restrictive policies relative to academic make-up based on the school district philosophy and/or resources.
- C. Incompletes: Incompletes are not to be considered passing grades for purposes of eligibility.

- D. Special Education Students: Students receiving service under I.D.E.A., 89:313, R.S.A. 186:C and related State Board of Education regulations, to include students receiving service pursuant to Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, may be declared academically eligible by their Principal provided that all other eligibility requirements are met.
- E. It should be noted that the NHIAA Scholastic Standing By-Law defines minimum standards only. There is no prohibition on schools adopting higher academic standards in determining academic eligibility.
- F. Below grade nine students who have been granted a below grade nine waiver will be expected to maintain the same academic standards set for high school students.

Rationale for the Scholastic Standing Rule: The primary purpose of high schools is to academically prepare students for productive contributions in their future lives. Interscholastic activity programs are an extension of the classroom, and academic standards help ensure the balance between participation in the activity and appropriate academic performance. In addition, interscholastic activity programs assist in the educational development of all participants. Academic standards also promote the objective of graduation from the institution and that student participants are truly representing their academic institution. Overall, academic standards promote educational standards, underscore the education values of participating in activities, encourage appropriate academic performance and allow the use of interscholastic participation as a motivator for classroom performance.

Sect. 3: Semester Rule

A student is eligible for competition, whether or not he/she competes in interscholastic athletics, for no more than eight (8) consecutive semesters beyond the eighth grade; the eight consecutive semester rule begins upon the initial enrollment date in ninth grade. Approved participation by seventh and eighth graders does not count toward the eight (8) allowed semesters. Also, if a student terminates at one school he/she may not transfer to another school to increase eligibility.

Rationale for the Semester Rule: A maximum participation requirement: promotes timely progress toward graduation by discouraging students from delaying or interrupting their high school education; disallows students to enroll for one semester each school year to increase athletic ability and skill; promotes equality of competition; diminishes risks stemming from unequal competition, and places emphasis on the academic mission of the school.

A maximum participation requirement promotes harmony and fair competition among member schools by maintaining equality of eligibility. Each student is afforded the same number of semesters of athletic eligibility, which increases the number of students who will have an opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics.

A maximum participation requirement is conducive to the prevention of redshirting; helps avoid exploitation by coaches or boosters who otherwise might seek to obtain transfers or to delay a student's normal progress through school, and prevents displacement of younger student-athletes by older student-athletes wishing to protract unfairly their high school athletic careers.

Sect. 4: Transfer Rule

- A. A student who transfers enrollment with a corresponding move into a new school district by his/her parents or guardians shall be declared eligible immediately if all other eligibility requirements are met. A change of residence under this by-law shall consist of the moving of all household properties to the new address and the parents and student(s) actually living there. A second family residence shall not meet the requirements of this standard. The term parents shall mean the student's 1) natural parents, 2) adoptive parents, 3) foster parents, if the student is placed in a foster home after becoming a ward of the court, 4) custodial parent, if parents are divorced, 5) legal guardian but only in the case where neither parent is living or legally competent, or 6) a family whom a student has been living with for at least 365 days.
- B. Residence is defined as the place where the student's parents have established their permanent home. This means that the family regularly eats and sleeps in a specific place of lodging. It is a place where the student and his/her parents are habitually present and to which when departing, they intend to return directly.
- C. A student who transfers enrollment without a corresponding move into a new school district by his/her parents or guardians shall be required to be in attendance in the new school for one (1) year from the date of enrollment in order to establish athletic eligibility. This includes those students who transfer from a non-member school (i.e. prep school, etc.) back to the local school and those students who change schools as a result of change in guardianship (i.e. move to live with different parent/guardian without parent/guardian changing residence).
- D. A student transferring to an NHIAA member school without a parental/guardian change in legal residence may not be added to the roster of a sports team (at any level) after the opening of a sports season (first date to practice) in that sport as listed in By-Law Article XXXVI of the NHIAA Handbook.
- E. A student who transfers to a new school within one calendar year of the relocation of his/her coach to that school without a corresponding change in residence is considered to have transferred for athletic reasons and is not eligible to participate in sports coached by that coach for one calendar year from the date of enrollment in the new school.
- F. Other:
 - 1. Eighteen year old emancipated individuals and homeless students who change their legal residence and school in compliance with local board of education residency requirements are ineligible for 365 days. Requests for waivers may be submitted to the Executive Director. Upon receipt of a Transfer Rule Affidavit from the school principal, the Executive Director will review each case on an individual basis. Only one (1) transfer in twelve (12) months will be permitted.
 - 2. Students placed in a school by outside agencies (i.e. courts, State Department of Welfare, other school districts, medical referrals) become eligible upon registration and enrollment in the receiving school provided all other eligibility requirements are met. The Principal is to verify eligibility to the Executive Director.
These requirements may be waived, if all the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The student has not transferred for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics and there has been no recruiting of the student for athletic purposes.
 - 2. The Transfer Rule Affidavit is completed and submitted to the NHIAA and approved in writing by the Executive Director.
 - 3. All other eligibility requirements are met.

DEFINITION OF TRANSFER FOR PRIMARILY ATHLETIC PURPOSES:

A transfer for primarily athletic reasons includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. A transfer to obtain the athletic advantage of a superior, or inferior, athletic team, a superior athletic facility, or a superior coach or coaching staff;
- 2. A transfer to obtain relief from a conflict with the philosophy or action of an administrator, teacher, or coach, relative to athletics;

3. A transfer seeking a team consistent with the student's athletic abilities;
4. A transfer to obtain a means to nullify action by the previous school.

Rationale for the Transfer Rule: A transfer/residency requirement: assists in the prevention of students switching schools in conjunction with the change of athletic season for athletic purposes; impairs recruitment and reduces the opportunity for undue influence to be exerted by persons seeking to benefit from a student-athlete's prowess.

A transfer/residency requirement: promotes stability and harmony among member schools by maintaining the amateur standing of high school athletics; by not letting individuals other than enrolled students participate and by upholding the principle that a student should attend the high school in the district where the student's parent(s) guardian(s) reside.

Sect. 5: Athletic Recruitment/Proselytizing of Students:

It is a violation of NHIAA policy to offer, either directly or indirectly, of any inducement to a student of any member school to sever connections with that school and transfer to another member school for athletic purposes shall be deemed to be recruitment. Similarly, efforts at persuasion, including but not limited to visits to a students' home, invitations to visit the school, invitations to the student to train with the school, for the purpose of inducing a student to transfer for athletic participation shall be deemed to be recruitment. **NOTE:** This definition also applies to students below grade 9 who are contemplating enrolling in an NHIAA member school.

POLICY ON RECRUITING:

A. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Recruiting is the use of undue influence and/or special inducement by anyone associated with a school in an attempt to encourage a prospective student to attend or remain at that school for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics.
2. Recruitment of students or attempted recruitment of students for athletic purposes, regardless of their residence, is a gross violation of the By-Laws of the NHIAA and is expressly forbidden.
3. Member schools are responsible for any violation committed by any person associated with the school including principals, assistant principals, athletic directors, coaches, teachers, any other staff members or employees, students, parents or any organization, such as booster clubs, having connection to the school. Member schools also are responsible for any violation committed by any person acting at the direction of the school or anyone associated with the school to include volunteers.

B. UNDUE INFLUENCE

1. The use of undue influence, which is the use of direct or indirect communication by anyone associated with a school with a prospective student-athlete in an attempt to solicit or encourage the enrollment of a prospective student-athlete in that school, is prohibited. Additionally, no one associated with a school may request any third party to solicit or encourage the enrollment of a prospective student-athlete in that school, for in that case the third party becomes associated with that school.
2. Undue influences includes, but is not limited to:
 - a) Initiating or arranging telephone, or written contact such as questionnaires, cards or letters, with a prospective student-athlete or member of his/her family for the purpose and intent of soliciting or encouraging the enrollment of the student in a school.
 - b) Visiting or entertaining a prospective student-athlete or member of his/her family for the purpose and intent of soliciting or encouraging the enrollment of the student in a school.

- c) Providing transportation to a prospective student-athlete or member of his/her family to visit a school or to meet with anyone associated with a school for the purpose and intent of soliciting or encouraging the enrollment of the student in that school.
 - d) Attending grade school, junior high or middle school games for the purpose of evaluating and recruiting specific prospective student-athletes.
 - e) Requesting booster club members, students, parents or alumni from a school to discuss the merits of the school's athletic program with a prospective student-athlete or member of his/her family by phone, in person or through letters or other written communication.
 - f) Any other contact with a prospective student-athlete or member of his/her family for the purpose and intent of soliciting or encouraging the enrollment of the student in a school.
3. No member school and no one acting on behalf of any member school may give a speech or give any slide, film or tape presentation or distribute any written material, including advertisement in newspapers, magazines or other publications, which states that a member school's athletic program is better than the athletic program of any other member school or that it would be more advantageous for any prospective student-athlete to participate in athletics at the member school as opposed to any other school.
 4. When a student at a junior high, middle school or other high school, or the parent(s) or guardian(s) of that student contacts a coach about attending the coach's school, the coach must immediately refer the student, parent(s) or guardian(s) to the principal or other appropriate school personnel, who have the responsibility of seeking and processing prospective students.
 5. It is not considered a violation for a coach to have normal community contact with a student who attends a junior high or middle school of the same system which is a feeder to the high school at which the coach is employed.

C. SPECIAL INDUCEMENT

1. A student-athlete may not receive or be offered any remuneration of any kind or receive or be offered any special inducement of any kind which is not made available to all students who enroll in or apply to a school.
2. Special inducements include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Offer or acceptance of money or other valuable consideration such as free or reduced tuition during the regular school year or summer school by any person associated with a school.
 - b) Offer or acceptance of room, board, textbooks or clothing, or financial allotment for textbooks or clothing.
 - c) Offer or acceptance of pay for work that is not performed or that is in excess of the amount regularly paid for such service.
 - d) Offer or acceptance of free transportation by any person associated with a school.
 - e) Offer or acceptance of a residence with any person associated with a school.
 - f) Offer or acceptance of any privilege not afforded to non-athletes.
 - g) Offer or acceptance of free or reduced rent for parents or guardians.
 - h) Offer or acceptance of payment of moving expenses of parents or guardians or assistance with the moving of parents or guardians.
 - i) Offer or acceptance of employment of parents or guardians in order to entice the family to move to a certain community if any person associate with the school makes the offer.
 - j) Offer or acceptance of help in securing a college athletic scholarship.

D. ACADEMIC RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

This policy is not intended to prevent a member school from conducting academic recruitment programs or recruitment programs designed to attract students based upon the school's overall educational and extracurricular programs. However, such recruitment programs must be designed to present the overall educational and extracurricular programs of the school and not be used as a subterfuge for recruiting students for athletic purposes. Such general recruitment programs permissible under this article must be carried out under the following guidelines.

1. With the permission of the principal, member schools may present speeches, slides, film, tape or other similar programs at elementary, junior high or middle school with grades below ninth from which the member school can normally expect enrollment.
2. Member schools may present speeches, slides, film, tape or other similar programs to students at elementary, junior high or middle schools with grades below the ninth from which the member school can normally expect enrollment so long as said speeches. Slides, tape, or other presentations are designed to attract students to attend the member school and are based upon the overall educational programs and not presented solely for the purpose of recruiting prospective athletes. Any mention of athletics said in speeches, films, slides, films, tapes or other such presentations or in a any written material handed out at such presentations must be limited to listing the various interscholastic athletic programs in which that school participates and to a description of the athletic facilities available at said school. No information can be distributed through such programs by the use of speech, slides, films, tapes or written material which in any way implies that the member school's athletic program is better than any other member school's athletic program or that it would be more advantageous for a prospective student-athlete if he/she participated at that member school as opposed to any other member school.
3. Recruiting programs of any kind cannot be conducted by coaches or any member of the school's athletic staff.
4. Member schools may conduct open houses, but information presented at said open houses or in advertisements for said open houses concerning the school's athletic program must be limited to a listing of the sports in which that school participates in interscholastic athletics and to a description of the schools facilities. No information distributed at the school's open house through any speech, slide, film, tape or written material can imply that the school's athletic program is better than any other member school's athletic program or that it would be more advantageous for a prospective student-athlete if he/she participated at that member school.

E. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Evaluation of the student needs for financial assistance must be completed by the person(s) identified in the school who has the responsibility for financial assistance policies and procedures.

Funds which have been donated to the schools by organizations and individuals may be given as financial assistance to students through the normal financial assistance program of the school for all students, without regard to athletic potential.

F. PENALTIES

1. A member school found to be in violation of any provision of this policy: (a) will be required to forfeit all contests won in which a recruited student(s) participates and/or all points earned in any contest by a recruited student(s); (b) may be placed on probation and denied participation in the NHIAA State Championship Series for a period of not less than one year in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred; (c) may be placed on suspension and denied any participation with any member school for a period of not less than one year in the sport(s) in which the violation(s) occurred; and/or (d) may be suspended from membership in the NHIAA for a period of not less than one year.
2. A student who is found to be in violation of this policy: (a) will be declared permanently ineligible for interscholastic competition at the school to which he/she was recruited; and (b) may be declared ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period not to exceed one year at any NHIAA member school.

Rationale for Recruiting Rule: A recruiting/undue influence prohibition discourages exploitation of students; prevents over-emphasis of athletics; gives average student-athletes more opportunity to participate; discourages adults from jeopardizing a student's eligibility, and prevents misuse of athletic programs.

Sect. 6: Amateur Status

An amateur athlete is one who participates in athletics solely for the physical, mental, social and educational benefits derived from such participation. The amateur athlete treats all athletic activities in which he/she participates as an avocational endeavor. One who takes or has taken pay, or has accepted the promise of pay, in any form, for participation in athletics, or has directly or indirectly used his/her athletic skill for pay in any form shall not be considered an amateur and will be in violation of this by-law.

The following are the basic interpretations of the principles involved in the amateur code, which may lead to the loss of an athlete's eligibility:

- A. Participating in any athletic activity under an assumed name.
- B. Accepting awards other than those considered being symbolic in nature. Examples of such include letters, sweaters, jackets, pins, trophies, other similar type awards, and rings or watches, which are properly inscribed.
- C. Participating on an amateur sports team in which the student athlete receives, directly or indirectly, any salary, incentive payment, gratuity or expense allowance other than actual and necessary travel allowances, and room/board expenses for practice and games.
- D. Signing a contract or verbally commit with an agent or a professional sports organization.
- E. Participating on a professional team or against professional athletes.
- F. Working as a counselor in a summer camp without affecting his/her eligibility. Under the terms of this principle, he/she may work in a tennis or golf shop provided he/she does not give instruction for compensation. He/she may obtain employment with a recreation department and his/her duties may include some officiating or coaching responsibilities.
- G. Appearing on radio or television related in any way to his/her athletic ability or prestige, the athlete may not under any circumstance receive remuneration for his/her appearance. Under such circumstance, however, an athlete may appear on a sponsored radio or television program or have his/her name appear in newsprint ads or in player of the week, month, year advertisement promoting products provided he/she does not endorse or implicitly endorse any commercial product.

Rationale for Amateur Status Rule: An amateur/awards limitation promotes amateurism; stimulates participation for the sake of the game itself; prevents exploitation of students, and encourages students to engage in athletic competition for physical, mental and social benefits.

Sect. 7: Non-School Competition

- A. A member of a school team is a student athlete who is regularly present for, and actively participates in, team tryouts, practices and competitions. Bona fide members, as of the first date to practice in that sport as listed in By-Law Article XXXVI of the NHIAA Handbook, of a school team are prevented from missing a high school practice or competition to compete with an out-of-school team, practice or competition to include tournaments, showcases, combines or other athletic events.

Whenever a conflict arises between the high school team practice/competition and an out-of-school practice/competition on the same day, the high school team practice/competition must be honored by the student athlete. Priority must be given at all times to the high school team, its practices, and its contests unless a waiver has been granted by the principal and athletic director. It is expressly understood that waivers shall not be granted on a regular basis and shall only be granted in extraordinary circumstances.

THIS IS AN NHIAA RULE AND ONLY THE PRINCIPAL AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MAY WAIVE THE RULE, **NOT** THE COACH.

Penalties: Any student athlete who violates this rule, unless a waiver has been granted as stated above, for the first time shall be declared ineligible for the next 4 consecutive interscholastic events or 3 weeks of a season in which the student athlete is a participant, whichever is greater. This penalty is effective from the date of his or her last participation in a high school sport. Any student athlete who violates this rule a second time or subsequent time shall be declared ineligible for participation in any high school sport for the balance of the school year.

- B. International Competition:

Students and/or teams desiring this kind of competition must have the approval of the NHIAA. No requests for approval will be considered unless received in writing and signed by the Principal six (6) weeks prior to the date of participation. Requests are to be submitted to the NHIAA Executive Director for action.

- C. Member Schools' Students Attending Foreign Country Schools:

Member school student athletes attending high schools in a foreign country will be under all the Eligibility By-Laws as stated in the NHIAA Handbook.

Sect. 8: International Exchange Student Eligibility

- A. *Definition of International Exchange Student:*

Any student transferring from a International high school under the sponsorship of an accepted International exchange program as listed by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET)

Conditions of Eligibility

1. Student is eligible for one (1) year from the date of enrollment.
2. Eligibility must be verified and approved by the NHIAA prior to interscholastic participation.
3. There shall be no evidence that a student, school, or other interested party has influenced the assignment of the International exchange student for athletic purposes.
4. Student must meet all other NHIAA eligibility requirements.
5. International students transferring to an NHIAA member school involving recruitment or to seek an athletic advantage shall be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletics and schools deliberately participating in such activities will be subject to sanctions by the NHIAA Representative Council.

B. *Definition of International Student Not on Approved International Exchange Program:*

Any student transferring from a International high school without the sponsorship of an accepted International exchange program as listed by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET).

Conditions of Eligibility: All of the conditions of eligibility listed below must be met in order to satisfy athletic eligibility.

1. Eligibility must be verified and approved by the NHIAA Executive Director (completed through an application waiver process) prior to interscholastic athletic competition. If the request is denied by the Executive Director, an appeal may be made to the NHIAA Eligibility Committee.
 2. If a waiver is granted, the length of eligibility shall be one calendar year (365 days) from the date of enrollment at the school. **The eligibility cannot be delayed one calendar year** but the school may request a second year of participation utilizing the process outlined in Sect. 8 A-1.
 3. There shall be no evidence that a student, school, or other interested party has influenced the assignment of the International student for athletic purposes.
 4. The student cannot be a graduate from an International secondary school. This criteria can be waived by the Executive Director if it can be determined the student would be otherwise eligible if there would have been eligibility available in a 12 year program as is typical in New Hampshire. Regardless of the structure of the international program, only one year of eligibility can be granted under this provision.
 5. Student must meet all other NHIAA Eligibility requirements.
 6. International students transferring to an NHIAA member school involving recruitment or to seek an athletic advantage shall be declared ineligible for interscholastic athletics and schools deliberately participating in such activities will be subject to the sanctions by the NHIAA Eligibility Committee.
- C. The NHIAA Executive Director shall annually review and adopt for NHIAA eligibility purposes the CSIET list of programs. The Executive Director through the NHIAA Council reserve the right to remove from this list, annually, any program that permits or allows students, schools, or school representatives to select, specify or influence the program's sponsor's assignment or selection of International exchange students and/or a program that does not meet the criteria herein.

Organizations are Listed in the 2009-2010 CSIET Advisory List. This list can be found on the NHIAA Website under Bulletin Board.

CSIET

212 S. Henry Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703/739-9050

Fax: 703/739-9035

Email: mailbox@csiet.org

Full Listing is the status that organizations and programs described in the CSIET Advisory List are accorded when they have demonstrated full compliance with the CSIET Standards.

Provisional Listing reflects the Evaluation Committee's determination that an organization is in its first or second year of listing with CSIET, and is judged to be in compliance with CSIET Standards.

Conditional Listing is a status that may be granted to an organization that had previously achieved either a Full or Conditional Listing. It is issued to organizations that the Accreditation Committee determines are substantially in compliance with the standards but which need improvement in one or more areas. Conditional Listing is granted for one year, but may be renewed for subsequent one-year periods upon completion of review by the Accreditation Committee. Conditional Listing is not granted to newly applying organizations.

Sect. 9: Out-of-Season Competition

A. School Year: Fall Starting Date Until Spring Closing Date

1. A coach may have contact with his/her team or potential (*above grade 6*) team members for the purpose of instruction, skill development and conditioning outside of the season provided the following steps are followed:
 - a. A coach is defined as anyone presently under contract or anyone under contract the previous year. (This includes volunteer coaches.)
 - b. That no district provided operational school funds are used to subsidize out-of-season activity. Use of Booster funds or fundraised monies is permissible only to subsidize activity that is open to all.
 - c. A written plan developed by the coach and approved by the principal, athletic director and superintendent **MUST** be submitted to the NHIAA prior to implementing.
 - d. The written plan describes the goals of the activity, the number of participants, the site to be used and the amount of time.
 - e. The purpose is to allow individual and/or small groups of students to participate in conditioning and instructional/skill development activities for individual growth and improvement. Scrimmages, games, leagues and full team practices are not allowed.
 - f. The plan is approved and does not compete with existing seasonal commitments by the student athlete. The provisions of By-Law Article II: Eligibility Sect. 7: Non-School Competition with respect to priority given to school teams applies to activities permitted under the provisions of this By-Law.
 - g. The coach has the ability to have contact with his/her perspective athletes during the academic year in the season that precedes their sport season. This would be termed the “live” period for contact. The fall season could work with students during the previous spring season. The winter season could work with students during the fall and the spring season could work with students during the winter.
 - h. Individual schools may adopt more restrictive policies relative to out-of-season competition based on the school districts policies and or resources.

Rationale:

The NHIAA is strongly committed to the notion of encouraging student athletes to play multiple sports and be as well rounded as possible. Although contrary to this philosophy and proven success at the collegiate level (most college coaches want well rounded multi-sport athletes) the NHIAA also recognizes and respects the desire of some student athletes to want to specialize in a sport. By allowing limited contact throughout the school year it is our belief that these students can best benefit from working with their school-based coaches who are highly trained and understand the relationships between academics, athletics, and the life lessons taught that require both components of a sound education. Some coaches will opt not to have contact outside of this sport season as a way to encourage multi-sport athletes. This is a totally acceptable position to take. Others will welcome the opportunity, which is also fine as long as they encourage continued academic and athletic development and achievement. As noted, no student should be required to participate outside of the NHIAA defined sport season and it is the responsibility of the school principal and athletic administrator to ensure this does not occur. In the current system, the school officials have no way to police such abuse.

B. **Summer:***

A high school coach who is employed by a school district (paid or volunteer) may coach his/her sport under the following conditions:

1. The school year had ended for the school.
2. That no school funds are used (excluded facilities and equipment). Use of Booster funds or fundraised monies is permissible only to subsidize team activity that is open to all.

C. **Captains Practice:**

Captains practices are not permitted under any circumstances whether during the school year or summer.

D. **Other:** Coaches may coach in All-Star competitions (eg. A.A.U.) and are exempt from this By-Law only if the following conditions exist:

1. That the NHIAA, through the Executive Director, has been properly notified by the member school principal of the coaches selection.
2. That no school funds or equipment are used.
3. That no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the group/teams can come from his/her school team or potential (*above grade 6*) candidates of that school. Team rosters may not exceed NHIAA Tournament roster allocations. Expanding or rotating groups/teams is not permitted as a means to circumvent this policy. Regardless of how a program is structured, the coach cannot have contact with more than 25% of his/her existing or potential players.
4. Whenever possible, the players from that same school must be divided between different groups/levels.
5. That where a conflict exists between the participation on a school sponsored team and an outside team, the school team will receive priority consideration.
6. Sports activities that are permitted out of season must also meet the following conditions:
 - a. No use of school owned or issued warm-ups and/or uniforms
 - b. A student may accept a symbolic award or merchandise which does not have a value or cost in excess of \$20.00

E. **Out of Season Competition Definitions:**

1. **OPEN GYM:** School sponsored “open gym “ or “after school” activities are permitted in the member school’s facilities out-of-season if they adhere to the following principles.
 - a. Diversity of students - Program must be open to all students on an equal basis.
 - b. Diversity of activities - A variety of sports must be activities that are offered throughout the year, not a focus on one sport.
 - c. Student conducted - Students must be able to choose from school offered activities. A coach of a sport under NHIAA jurisdiction shall follow all the regulations under the NHIAA Out of Season Competition By-Laws.
 - d. Recreation emphasis - The program cannot be an organized program of instruction and/or competition.
 - e. A high school coach who is employed by a school district (paid or volunteer) may supervise an open gym under the conditions listed in a-d.
2. **CONDITIONING PROGRAMS:**
 School sponsored “conditioning programs” are permitted “out-of-season” if they do not involve equipment which is specific to a sport conducted on an interscholastic basis. Examples of prohibited equipment include, but are not limited to: basketballs, volleyballs or nets, hockey stick (field or ice), or pucks/balls, track starting blocks, shots, discusses, hurdles, or high jump and pole vault standards, football helmets, pads or dummies, baseball/softball bats, balls or bases, wrestling mats, gymnastic apparatus. Generic equipment such as cones, weights, jump ropes and other fitness apparatus are permitted in a conditioning program. The conditioning program must be open to all students on an equal basis.
3. **INTRAMURALS:**
 A high school coach who is employed by a school district (paid or volunteer) may organize a school sponsored intramural program in any sport as long as there is no instruction and the activity is recreational in nature.

Sect. 10: All-Star Competition

The NHIAA does neither sanction nor endorse any All-Star team or competition in any sport at any level. A student athlete who is a member of an NHIAA school team may not participate in an All-Star game/event, in season or out, without losing eligibility in that sport for one full year (365 days) from the date of such participation with the All-Star team.

Following completion of high school eligibility in a sport and prior to graduation from high school, a senior student athlete may participate in an All-Star competition.

NOTE: Underclass student athletes' participation in non-NHIAA sponsored athletic competition shall not cause athletic ineligibility if the activity is not in conflict with NHIAA Eligibility by-laws Sect. 7 Non-School Competition or Sect. 9 Out-of-Season Competition. Such activities include, but are not limited to AAU Baseball and Basketball, Select Soccer, Spirit competitions, Junior Olympic Volleyball, Futures Field Hockey, and similar type competition.

In order to participate in such activities during the school year, a report submitted by the high school principal must be on file at the NHIAA that includes the name(s) of the participants in the form of a roster. Additionally, the high school coach should be reported as well if involved in a program. The NHIAA does neither endorse nor sanction these activities.

Sect. 11: Post Graduates/Early Graduation

A student must be an undergraduate: i.e., he/she shall not be a graduate of a secondary school. An early graduate of a high school may represent his/her school in athletics until the end of the sport season in which he/she is participating if otherwise eligible. The official transcripts must be withheld until at least the season is completed.

Sect. 12: Individuals with Disabilities

The NHIAA endorses and encourages the participation of qualified students with mental and/or physical disabilities in interscholastic athletics, unless that student poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or themselves.

Each participating school is responsible for compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act as it may pertain to the participation of individuals with disabilities in school athletic programs.

The NHIAA recognizes that some students with Individual Educational Programs (IEPs) must reside away from home. Such students who are in the least restrictive placement and who are otherwise qualified to participate in interscholastic athletics shall be permitted to participate in school athletic programs in the district where they sleep.

Sect. 13: Charter, Home Educated and Non-Public Students

A. Home Educated Students:

The NHIAA shall declare home-educated students to be immediately eligible to try out for a team(s) to participate in interscholastic athletics if the following conditions are met:

1. The student must meet all established policies adopted by the local school board.
2. The parents must submit a written request to the Principal of the member school requesting their son/daughter's eligibility to try out for an athletic team in interscholastic athletics
3. A home-educated student may represent a charter school, non-public or public school in the district where they reside. The home-educated student must be living with the parents or legal guardians in the family residence.
4. The Principal must be satisfied there was no recruitment of the student for athletic purposes as defined under *Definition of Recruitment* in the NHIAA Handbook.
5. The student meets the guidelines of the Age of Contestants Rule, Post-Graduate, Scholastic Standing Rule, Semester Rule and all other Eligibility Rules set forth in By-Law Article II of the NHIAA Handbook.
6. The Principal shall be required to certify the students' eligibility and that, prior to making such a certification, shall be satisfied the requirements of all NHIAA Eligibility rules are met.
7. The Scholastic Standing Rule must be reviewed by the Principal for each marking period the student athlete wishes to participate and recorded on the official transcript held by the school where the athlete participates.
8. The NHIAA member school must maintain a transcript of the student's academic record as well as other relevant eligibility rules (i.e. age, semesters, etc.)
9. If the Principal determines the eligibility requirements detailed above have been met, he/she may declare the student immediately eligible to participate in interscholastic athletic competition. The Principal must inform the Association in writing that by completing the Non Public and Home Educated Student Application, he/she has reviewed all NHIAA eligibility rules and certifies the student has satisfied all of the eligibility requirements and, therefore, is eligible to try out in interscholastic athletics at their school.
10. The requirements of the New Hampshire education statutes, relative to school attendance and enrollment, must also be satisfied before a home educated student is declared eligible to participate.

11. A student falling under the provisions of this section is eligible to represent only one (1) school in any academic year.

B. Charter and Non-Public Students:

The NHIAA shall declare non-public and home-educated students to be immediately eligible to try out for a team(s) to participate in interscholastic athletics if the following conditions are met:

1. A non-public and charter school student may represent the non-public or charter school they attend or the public high school in the district where they reside. The non-public or charter school student must be living with the parents or legal guardians in the family residence.
2. The student must meet all established policies adopted by the local school board.
3. The parents must submit a written request to the Principal of the member school requesting their son/daughter's eligibility to try out for an athletic team in interscholastic athletics
4. The Principal must be satisfied there was no recruitment of the student for athletic purposes as defined under *Definition of Recruitment* in the NHIAA Handbook.
5. The student meets the guidelines of the Age of Contestants Rule, Post-Graduate, Scholastic Standing Rule, Semester Rule and all other Eligibility Rules set forth in By-Law Article II of the NHIAA Handbook.
6. The Principal shall be required to certify the students' eligibility and that, prior to making such a certification, shall be satisfied the requirements of all NHIAA Eligibility rules are met. The Principal of the school where the student is participating must also certify that the student meets all local criteria for eligibility as set by both the school of attendance and the school of interscholastic participation if such local requirements exceed those of the NHIAA. When a discrepancy exists between the standards for the two schools, the student athlete must meet the higher of the two standards imposed. This includes academic, behavioral, or any other eligibility standards imposed by the local high schools.
7. The Scholastic Standing Rule must be reviewed by the both Principals for each marking period the student athlete wishes to participate.
8. The school of participation and the school of attendance are both entitled to any student records that are necessary to verify eligibility.
9. If the Principal of both the school of attendance and the school of participation determine the eligibility regulations detailed above have been met, the student may be immediately declared eligible. The Principal of the school of participation must notify the NHIAA by indicating the students name on the Non-Public and Home Educated Student Form.
10. Should the Principals of the school of attendance and school of participation fail to agree on the eligibility status of a student athlete, one or both may petition the Executive Director of the NHIAA for a ruling under the provisions of the Due Process Procedures By-Law.
11. The requirements of the New Hampshire education statutes, relative to school attendance and enrollment, must also be satisfied before a non public student is declared eligible to participate.
12. A student falling under the provisions of this section (13) is eligible to represent only one (1) school in any academic year.

Definition of Non-Public School – means a school established by an individual or group other than the state, subdivision of the state or federal government and whose operation, or any portion thereof, rests with those officials who have not been publicly elected or appointed.

Definition of Co-Curricular – includes those activities which are designed to supplement and enrich regular academic program of study, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community.

Definition of Charter School - A charter school means an open enrollment public school, operated independent of any school board and managed by a board of directors. A charter school shall operate as a non-profit secular organization under a charter granted by the State Board and in conformance with Chapter 194-B of the New Hampshire Education Laws Annotated.

Definition of Representing a School: A student athlete who actively participates in any team tryout, practice, and/or competition represents that school for that academic year.

Sect. 14: Sports Season

For eligibility purposes, the sports season begins on the starting date of that sport as listed in By-Law Article XXXVI relative to “Corresponding Dates for All Sports.” It is not the date of a teams first regular season contest. The sports season ends following the final date that the school will be represented in NHIAA regular season, post-season tournament, or Council of New England Secondary School Principals' Association (CNESSPA) events in that sport.

Sect. 15: Non-Member Schools Agreement to Compete With NHIAA Member Schools

NHIAA member schools will be allowed to compete in contests against non-member schools in the sports of Cross Country, Indoor Track, Outdoor Track, Skiing, and Wrestling if the chief administrator of the non-member school agrees in writing, prior to the start of the season that:

- A. The non-member school team shall not include a player who has reached the age of 19 before September 1 of that year.
- B. Post-Graduate students are not allowed to compete against NHIAA member schools.
- C. The length of the periods played will not exceed the maximum lengths prescribed by NHIAA game rules.
- D. The competition shall be conducted consistent with all NHIAA rules. This rule is not to be construed as requiring any non-NHIAA home team to pay game officials the fee that the NHIAA has established. The host school, in this case, will pay according to its agreement with their officials' organization.
- E. National Federation playing rules shall be played in contests held in New Hampshire. (Exception: Skiing)

Sect. 16: Filing Eligibility Affidavits

The Principal has the sole responsibility for determining athletic eligibility in the school. He/she shall be the official representative of the school in all hearings, appeals, and protests. This responsibility cannot be delegated away without prior approval of the NHIAA Executive Director. Such approval will only be granted for extraordinary and/or emergency reasons. All eligibility regulations apply to boy and girl athletes on all levels of competition (Freshmen, Sub-Varsity, and Varsity).

No student may represent their school in an interscholastic athletic contest unless the Principal has certified said student's eligibility. The process for certifying such eligibility is as follows:

- A. The NHIAA office will receive the affidavit, signed by the Principal, stating that the school has entirely read, understands, will abide by, and will enforce all rules, regulations, and policies contained in the NHIAA Constitution and By-Laws. The affidavit will also state that all boys and girls are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics and that they meet all eligibility rules and regulations. The signed affidavits are due in the NHIAA office prior to the beginning of each sports season.
- B. A listing of all transfer students shall be sent to the NHIAA office at the beginning of each sports season.
- C. Eligibility lists shall be kept on file at each member school.

Sect. 17: Requests for Eligibility Rulings

The Principal shall have the right to ask the Executive Director for eligibility rulings. A Principal may ask for a ruling on the eligibility of a player or coach from his own school or from another school. All requests for rulings on eligibility must be in writing. Verbal rulings or opinions are not to be considered official and no action will be forthcoming.

Sect. 18: Assumed Name

Participating under an assumed name in any athletic contest shall make the student athlete ineligible for a period of 365 days from the date of the infraction.

Sect. 19: Deviations from Eligibility Rules

Deviations from the NHIAA Eligibility Rule may be granted after consideration of the following criteria:

- A. The merits of the individual case.
- B. Whether or not the granting of the deviation from the rule would be inconsistent with the purpose of the rule.
- C. Whether or not the individual concerned caused or contributed to cause the existence of the factors, which result in ineligibility.
- D. Hardship Eligibility – Hardship Eligibility may be granted to a transfer student who does not meet the NHIAA Transfer Rule when sufficient evidence, as determined by the NHIAA Executive Director and/or Eligibility Committee, is provided to show that it was necessary for the student to transfer because of unforeseen, unavoidable, or unusual circumstances including, but not limited to, broken home conditions, terminal or serious illness of parent or sibling, death of a parent or guardian, abandonment, loss of school accreditation, bankruptcy, and/or loss of principal income of legal guardian(s), and provided the transfer was not for athletic reasons and there was no undue influence. Hardship is defined as an unforeseeable act, condition or event which may not reasonably and/or practically be avoided or corrected and which causes the imposition of a severe burden upon the student or his/her family. A hardship situation may be a situation which is unique to the student or his/her family which could not have been predicted, which does not apply to others in a similar setting and over which the family has no control.

The request for an eligibility deviation must be given in writing to the Executive Director of the NHIAA by the school principal only. The aforementioned criterion needs to be addressed in detail. The information submitted may be considered confidential at the request of the principal if involving sensitive information or personal information. Although every attempt will be made to offer a timely written response, the Executive Director will have fourteen (14) days to rule a decision. Following the decision of the Executive Director the school principal may appeal said decision per the due process procedures found in By-Law Article V, Sect. 1:B.

Sect. 20: Schools Using Ineligible Contestants

Schools using *ineligible coaches or contestants shall forfeit all games and contests in which the ineligible coach or student participates. In self reporting the school may request a hearing with the Executive Director and/or Eligibility Committee to explain the circumstances of the situation. The Executive Director through the Eligibility Committee may modify consequences in the case of an unintentional violation of this rule. Likewise, intentional use of ineligible contestants or failing to report a known violation may result in additional consequences to include sanctions and fines. Other questions of forfeiture such as cancellation and other unusual circumstances shall be referred to the appropriate committee, through the Executive Director, for a decision.

*Eligible coach means that the individual has met the criteria outlined in By-Law Article I, Sect. 32, Coaches Eligibility. If no “eligible” coach is present the contest will be stopped. (Exception – refer to By-Law Article I, Sect. 10 School Representatives at Post Season Activities.)

Sect. 21: Policy Statement and School Recommendation Regarding Transgender Participation

The NHIAA is committed to providing transgender student-athletes with equal opportunities to participate in NHIAA athletic programs consistent with their gender identity. Hence, this policy addresses eligibility determinations for students who have a gender identity that is different from the gender listed on their official birth certificates.

The NHIAA has concluded that it would be fundamentally unjust and contrary to applicable State and Federal Law to preclude a student from participation on a gender specific sports team that is consistent with the public gender identity of that student for all other purposes. Therefore, for purposes of sports participation, the NHIAA shall defer to the determination of the student and his or her local school regarding gender identification. In this regard, the school district shall determine a student’s eligibility to participate in a NHIAA gender specific sports team based on the gender identification of that student in current school records and daily life activities in the school and community at the time that sports eligibility is determined for a particular season. Accordingly, when a school district submits a roster to the NHIAA, it is verifying that it has determined that the students listed on a gender-specific sports team are entitled to participate on that team due to their gender identity, and that the school district has determined that the expression of the student’s gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics.

Students who wish to participate on a NHIAA gender-specific sports team that is different from the gender identity listed on the student’s current school records are advised to address the gender identification issue with the local school district well in advance of the deadline for athletic eligibility determinations for a current sports season. Students should not be permitted to participate in practices or to try out for gender specific sports teams that are different from their publicly identified gender identity at that time or to try out simultaneously for NHIAA sports teams of both genders.

Nothing in this policy shall be read to entitle a student to selection to any particular team or to permit a student to transfer from one gender specific team to a team of a different gender during a sports season. In addition, the NHIAA shall expect that, as a general matter, after the issue of gender identity has been explicitly addressed by the student and the school district, the determination shall remain consistent for the remainder of the student’s high school sports eligibility. The NHIAA has concluded that this policy adequately addresses the concerns that a student might claim a particular gender identity for the purpose of gaining a perceived advantage in athletic competition, but does not unfairly discriminate against transgendered student athletes.

NHIAA By-Law Article III Sports Medicine

Sect. 2: Medical Statement

- A. Students shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics (practices or games) unless there is on file in the school a *medical statement* provided by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant (within the meaning of N.H. RSA 329) certifying the student athlete has passed a pre-participation physical examination prior to the beginning of the student athlete's high school athletic career. In every subsequent year, athletes shall have an updated medical history and a physical examination pertinent to their needs, if deemed necessary. Any student athlete significantly ill or injured since the last review shall be re-examined by a physician, nurse practitioner or physician's assistant in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics.
- B. A family may apply to the NHIAA Executive Director through the school administration for a waiver of this by-law based on religious reasons. Prior to approving such requests, the parent and/or legal guardian must sign the NHIAA waiver form which holds the NHIAA harmless for any medical problems that arise.
- C. Local school districts may impose requirements that exceed the provisions of this by-law. **Winnacunnet High School requires all student-athletes to have an annual physical examination. All physical exams must take place after June 1st of the previous school year.**

NHIAA By-Law Article IX Sportsmanship

Sect. 2:

A player or coach who makes physical contact with an official before, during, or after any NHIAA sanctioned contest, both regular season and tournament play, shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from any further participation in all sports for one calendar year (365 days) from the date of the offense.

Sect. 3: MEDIA RELATIONS

Coaches, *players* and other School Officials/Media Relations:

In an effort to ensure a relationship between coaches, players and other school officials and the media, which will reflect and promote the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity and ethics, it is expected: Coaches, *players* and other school officials should make an effort in their communications with the media to stress the positive displays of sportsmanship demonstrated by the student athletes, coaches, spectators, and schools involved in the contest. Additionally coaches and school officials:

1. Will not permit anyone under their supervision to criticize athletic contest officials.
2. Will cooperate with the media in the interpretation and clarification of rules and other aspects of the athletic contest.
3. Will not comment about specific decisions of game officials.

Any coach or *player* found in non-compliance with this by-law shall not participate in the next scheduled interscholastic athletic event, including NHIAA tournament contests. A second violation of this rule shall cause disqualification from coaching or *playing* in that sport for the balance of that season. Principals and athletic directors are to monitor this by-law and it shall be the responsibility of the school to file a report to the NHIAA within 72 hours including the name of the rule violator, a copy of the article (if available), *and action taken*.

Sect. 4: TAUNTING

Taunting in all sports is a flagrant unsportsmanlike foul that shall result in the ejection of the participant from that day of competition, plus the next day of scheduled competition.

Taunting is defined as:

“Any actions or comments by coaches, players, or other game personnel which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is contact that berates, needles, intimidates, or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin or background, and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs, or personal matters.”

Examples of taunting that would lead to ejection include, but are not limited to “trash talk”, physical intimidation outside the spirit of the game, reference to sexual orientation; “in the face” confrontations by one player to another; standing over/straddling a tackled or fallen player.

NOTE: This policy reinforces the responsibility of game officials, site managers, and game directors during regular season and NHIAA tournament play.

Sect. 5: HAZING

Hazing refers to any activity expected of someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person’s willingness to participate.

Hazing activities are generally considered to be: physically abusive, hazardous, and/or sexually violating. Anything that causes mental anguish or physical discomfort is considered to be classified as hazing.

Hazing or harassment practices of students will be disciplined according to School Board policy and will be reported to the police, in accordance with the State of NH Student hazing Law RSA 631.7.

NOTE: The NHIAA encourages all member schools to develop a policy on hazing.

Refer to the Winnacunnet High School Student Handbook for the Winnacunnet policy.

Sect. 6: Disqualification from an Interscholastic Athletic Event

- A. Any player who is disqualified before, during or after any sanctioned event and or scrimmage at the sub-varsity or varsity level, for exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct, shall not participate in any scheduled interscholastic athletic event, including NHIAA tournament contests until the suspension is served in the sport at the level in which the disqualification occurred. Any coach who is disqualified before, during or after a game at the sub-varsity or varsity level, for exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct, shall not participate in the next two scheduled interscholastic athletic event, including NHIAA tournament contests and MUST take the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Course for Disqualified Coaches prior to returning to coach in any capacity. Any player or coach who is disqualified from a game and participates in the next scheduled interscholastic athletic event(s), including NHIAA tournament contests, shall cause that school's game(s)/event(s) to be forfeited in the event of a win. In the event of loss (es), the matter will be referred to the Sportsmanship Committee for action. The school may request a hearing with the Executive Director and/or Sportsmanship Committee to explain the circumstances of the situation. The Executive Director, in consultation with the Sportsmanship Committee may modify consequences. It is the coach’s responsibility to promptly notify the school of any disqualification and the school must immediately impose the stated sanctions regardless of when formal notification is received from the NHIAA.

Note: During the period of disqualification, a coach may not be in attendance before, during, or after the game(s)/event(s) for which the disqualification is imposed. The local school administration can impose additional sanctions in addition to the two game suspension required under this By-Law should they feel such action is warranted. If there is a violation the contest shall be forfeited, or reviewed by the Executive director as noted in Sect. 6 above. Individual schools can determine if a disqualified student athlete is allowed to continue practice or other school activities or whether to exclude the student athlete as in the case of a disqualified coach.

- B. A disqualified student athletes must view the “NFHS Sportsmanship” video on the NFHS website under the supervision of a school official prior to returning to game action. A certificate of completion must be filed with the athletic director and reported to the NHIAA effective for the 2012-13 season.

- C. If any player or coach receives a second game disqualification during the season, that individual will be required to forfeit any participation in that interscholastic sport, at any level, for the balance of that season.
- D. Should the disqualification occur in the final contest of that season (including tournament play), with no remaining scheduled games in that level/sport, the suspension shall be served at the next regular season or post season contest for that student athlete. If a disqualification is administered to a graduating senior or coach in his final game of coaching for that school, it is the expectation that the school will take immediate and appropriate disciplinary action.
- E. Any player who leaves the bench area during an interscholastic athletic event where an altercation is taking place in the playing area shall receive a one-game disqualification for the next scheduled game.
*This rule supersedes the NFHS Ice Hockey penalty rule 4-5 Game Misconduct Penalties. A player or coach who has received a game misconduct penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be immediately removed from the game and the NHIAA Sportsmanship By-Law invoked as stated above.
- F. ***Soccer Yellow/Red Card Violations**
1. Any team, whose players/coaches receive 4 (four) red cards or a collective total of 12 cards during the season, will be ineligible for NHIAA tournament play and have their remaining season games forfeited and their season terminated. The school will be required to attend a hearing with the Soccer Committee. (Preseason yellow cards are not counted towards your season total. Preseason red cards will be counted towards your season total.)
 2. If a player/coach receives his/her third yellow card of the regular or post season a 1 game disqualification will be given.
 3. Any team whose players/coaches receive a collective total of 5 cards in a game will result in immediate termination of the game and result in forfeiture by the offending team. If both teams receive the collective total of 5 at the same time both teams will receive a forfeiture loss. This will include regular season and tournament play.
 4. Game officials must report all yellow and red card infractions to the NHIAA Office following their games.
 4. Game officials must report all yellow and red card infractions to the NHIAA Office following their games.

NOTE:

- Any player involved in a fight shall receive a two (2) game suspension for the first offense. A second offense will lead to a disqualification in that sport for the balance of the sports season.

*This decision cannot be appealed to the NHIAA Sportsmanship Committee as it is considered to be a judgment call by a game official.

IN CONCLUSION

A primary purpose of our athletic program at Winnacunnet is to develop individual and collective “winners.” The individual who is a “winner” continually strives to become a more useful and loyal member of their society. He/she has a burning desire to achieve excellence and strive to live a more healthful and purposeful life. He/she has high respect for the dignity of other students and student athletes and is always willing to make personal sacrifices for the benefit of the team. Most important of all, every “winner” that has ever lived was willing and able to live by a high code of conduct. We challenge you to become a “winner” and we sincerely hope that you are successful in your efforts to do so.

“Coaches Eligibility Standard of Excellence” For WHS Athletic Coaches

Qualifications

- Varsity Coaches agree to oversee all other coaches and athletes. Each coach must meet the NHIAA Coaches Eligibility standard. In addition, it is expected that coaches demonstrate a willingness to update their skills through attendance at training and continue education both in their sports and for coaching at the high school level.

Skill Development

- Coaches must develop an overall skill training and development program for their sport. This includes developing a plan for the season that encompasses all levels of the sport (Freshman, Junior Varsity and Varsity) always assuring that the safety and well being of the athlete come first. Skill development must take into account athletes performing at all levels in the sport from beginner to advanced. Measurement of success in skill development will not be exclusively based on wins and losses but rather on the overall improvement of the team.

Leadership

- Coaches are representatives of the school for their sport. They must instill an atmosphere of mutual respect among all participants in the program. They should expect that the actions of all participants in the program are their responsibility. Although it is understood that competition is a key aspect of the learning experience in sports, leadership requires finding the appropriate balance between competition and sportsmanship that must be demonstrated both during games and after events and practices. Properly trained coaches promote the educational mission of the interscholastic experience and interscholastic activity programs enrich each student's educational experience. Coaches shall support the Winnacunnet High School drug, alcohol, tobacco and wellness programs and policies.

Discipline

- Teaching self and team discipline is a key goal of any sports program. However, discipline must be administered in a just and fair manner. It should never involve intimidation, hazing or humiliation. In the administration of discipline, the coach is responsible for clear communication of the cause and intent of the action.

Communication

- Coaches are expected to be effective communicators with all the stakeholders of the program, i.e.: athletes, coaches, administrators, the school board, and all other members of the school community. In addition, the varsity coach will be the spokesperson with the community at large including parents, officials, and the press. In all communications the coaches are expected to maintain a professional approach insuring that the school is always represented in a positive manner.

Academic Support

- The primary mission of the school is to provide an adequate education for every student. The end outcome is for students to have as many options as possible for future success upon graduation. The coach is expected to work with each and every athlete to insure that they are striving for academic success. This includes insuring that they receive the support necessary for success. In addition, for athletes who wish to further their participation beyond high school, the coaches must work to support their goals by providing guidance and support including references where appropriate.

Administrative Direction

- Although the Varsity coach is responsible for management of the sports program, all coaches must adhere to administrative rules and procedures established by the Athletic Director, the Administration, and / or School Board and must adhere to the By Laws of the NHIAA. In all actions, the coaches will be held accountable. All coaches will have a sport evaluation at the end of each sport season. The evaluation will be the responsibility of the Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will place forward all Coaches names to the Principal, who will forward them to the Superintendent.

A copy of this agreement will be given to the coach and the original will be kept on file by the Athletic Director.

Reference By Laws

www.nhiala.org

Booster Club Guidelines

Guidelines and Expectations for Booster Clubs

Role of Booster Clubs:

Definition of Booster Club:

An independent organization formed to help support an extracurricular group or sports team. Support may include promoting the program, volunteering time, and raising supplemental funds through fundraising activities for use by the associated program.

Booster Club Purpose:

Winnacunnet is fortunate for the strong Booster Club participation and generous support afforded to our student participants. Booster Clubs are meant to enthusiastically support our students and help promote the organization's goals and vision. The Booster Club's primary role is in volunteering time and raising resources to help enhance the program. All members are expected to model appropriate behavior at all events, and serve as exemplars to our students representing the school district. We are thankful for the support and role modeling our Booster Clubs provide.

General Rules:

Getting Started:

- ❁ Booster Clubs are expected to follow Winnacunnet School District's code of acceptable conduct at all times.
 - Student/parent handbook: <https://goo.gl/cR7y2C>
- ❁ Booster Clubs are strongly encouraged to apply for 501(c) 3 status with the IRS. This allows for donors to make tax deductible donations.
 - 501(c) 3 instructions: <https://www.irs.gov/uac/about-form-1023ez>
- ❁ It is recommended that all Booster Clubs acquire liability insurance. ***Please note that Booster Club activities are not covered by Winnacunnet School District liability insurance.***
- ❁ Each Booster Club should have elected officers and should formalize specific bylaws. It is recommended that a voting process is developed in order to operate fairly and effectively make organizational decisions. The following are a few examples of Booster Club bylaws:
 - Windham High School Athletic Booster Club: <https://goo.gl/WbhTNE>
 - Portsmouth Girls Basketball Booster Club: <https://goo.gl/sCG5Nb>
 - Pittsfield Middle High School Booster Club: <https://goo.gl/22pxxD>
 - Theatre Arts Booster Club: <https://goo.gl/2JLEi8>
- ❁ All documentation for the aforementioned recommendations (i.e. certificate of insurance, articles of 501(c) 3 incorporation, and bylaws) needs to be submitted to the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director prior to the season.

Operations:

- ❁ Booster Clubs are required to conduct public meetings and record minutes.
 - Scheduled meetings are to be submitted to the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director a minimum of one week prior – to be posted on the WHS website calendar.
 - Meeting minutes need to be submitted to the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director within a week after the meeting date.
- ❁ All Booster Clubs must follow the stated Winnacunnet School District ‘Use of Facilities’ policy for any activity scheduled on school property.
 - Facility use instructions: <https://goo.gl/ROubo7>
- ❁ Any coach or group advisor is encouraged to work collaboratively with an associated Booster Club, but cannot act as a Booster Club officer or member – due to the implicit conflict of interest.
- ❁ Booster Clubs are expected to operate in a consistent manner with the school’s philosophy and objectives. Booster Club members should avoid negative or inappropriate comments and/or behavior regarding students, coaches, advisors, or opponents.
- ❁ The Booster Club is expected to ensure that all marketing materials indicate clearly the responsible party (said Booster Club).
- ❁ The use of the Winnacunnet High School name is a privilege, and can be revoked at the discretion of the Winnacunnet School District administration, if it is deemed the Booster Club is not abiding by the Booster Club guidelines.
 - Booster clubs can request an official ‘letter of consent to use the Winnacunnet name’ from the Principal.

Fundraising Rules:**Fundraising Guidelines:**

- ❁ All Booster Clubs are required to meet with the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director prior to the season to discuss and finalize the Booster Club’s fundraising plan.
 - The approved Booster Club fundraising plan shall be made available to the public.
- ❁ Booster Clubs are required to submit and gain prior initial approval from the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director, for all fundraising activities.
 - All marketing materials need to be included for approval.
 - The Student Activities Director and Athletic Director will maintain a full calendar of fundraising activities, which Booster Clubs will have access to.
- ❁ No student or parent is required to engage in any fundraising activity. Further, if it is determined through investigation, that a student was required or pressured to fundraise by the Booster Club, all Booster Club privileges will be revoked.

Booster Clubs are allowed to use funds for the following:

- ❁ End-of-year banquet
- ❁ Senior gifts
- ❁ Meals or snacks during and after games or practices
- ❁ Team sportswear with school administration approval of design
- ❁ Donation to Winnacunnet School District to support the associated activity
- ❁ Other items over \$500 with school administration approval

Improper Use of Booster Club Funds:

- ❁ No gift cards or cash gifts
- ❁ No gifts to individual students (Exceptions: team gifts, team sportswear, senior gifts, individual awards/trophies/plaques, or commemorative items for state recognized achievement)
- ❁ No monetary gifts to paid or volunteer coaches
- ❁ No scholarships directly from Booster Club (donations to established scholarship programs are allowable)

Accounting & Reporting Requirements:

Accounting & Reporting Requirements:

- ❁ Booster Clubs are required to submit a proposed budget to the Student Activities Director and Athletic Director prior to the season. The following is a sample / template Booster Club budget:
 - Proposed budget sample: <https://goo.gl/gvygx3>
- ❁ All Booster Clubs are required to submit an annual financial statement to the SAU #21 Business Administrator upon completion of season. This consists of the Booster Club's updated budget (document attached in previous bullet) including all current revenue and expenditures YTD. Additionally supporting documentation (i.e. copies of receipts, checks) should be attached.
- ❁ Booster Clubs are responsible for filing all appropriate tax forms, and are required to hold all funds in a recognized financial institution. The following are the instructions to apply for an Employer Identification Number (EIN) as a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization:
 - EIN application: <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/apply-for-an-employer-identification-number-ein-online>
- ❁ It is recommended for Booster Clubs to require two (2) signatures on all checks and/or accounts for disbursement of funds.
- ❁ It is strongly recommended that all Booster Clubs conduct an annual internal audit.

Exclusion from liability:

- ❁ Winnacunnet School District and the School Board assume no financial responsibility for any Booster Club and exclude itself from any liability a Booster Club may incur.

THANK YOU!

Winnacunnet School District has a proud athletic, extracurricular, and activity tradition that is made possible through generous and supportive community members. We are extremely thankful for your efforts in working with the community as we strive to provide our students the best extracurricular experiences possible.

GO WARRIORS!!

WINNACUNNET HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CONTRACT

This contract has been designed to bring total understanding among student athletes, their parents and school personnel. We ask that all participants and parents read and sign this contract. Indicating full knowledge of the rules, regulations and commitment that participation in sports programs at Winnacunnet High School demands.

The rules stated in this contract have been established to assure the successful operation of the athletic programs. These rules are set to assure fairness for all involved. The following are three (3) Basic Rules of Behavior for all participants in the Winnacunnet High School Athletic Program.

It is important to note that the penalties listed below are minimum penalties and more serious consequences could be given if warranted. Immediate removal from a team could occur if the Coach, Director of Athletics, and/or Principal rule the violation serious enough.

MANDATORY student-athlete/parent meetings will take place during the preseason of the fall, winter and spring. Each student wishing to participate in the Winnacunnet High School athletic program must attend this meeting with a parent. One meeting per year is required prior to the first season of participation. The purpose of the meeting is to review the student-athlete/parent handbook as well as the alcohol, other drugs and tobacco policy. There will also be a licensed substance abuse counselor present. Failure to attend the meeting will result in non-participation for the student.

*** * * * * THIS POLICY IS CUMULATIVE OVER FOUR YEARS. * * * * ***

USE OF ALCOHOL, OTHER DRUGS AND TOBACCO/~~VAPE~~ PRODUCTS ARE ILLEGAL.

All first offense violations of the alcohol, other drugs and tobacco policy will receive a fifteen (15) day suspension. Students may serve ten (10) days only if they agree to enroll in and complete an approved substance abuse education program. Any program not currently approved must be approved through the Principal.

A second offense violation means removal from all athletics and activities for a period of 365 days.

A third offense violation means removal from all athletics and activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

During the penalty phase, the athlete must attend and participate in the practice sessions and must attend the games but may not dress in uniform. Failure to comply with this rule will mean removal from the team. For any violation, a student must serve a minimum one game suspension. If the violation occurs and the suspension is completed prior to the first game (during preseason), the student must sit out the first regularly scheduled NHIAA contest.

When a student violates the athletic contract, the student and his/her parent(s) will meet with the Athletic Director or another administrator to discuss the violation. No consequences will be imposed until the meeting takes place.

1. VIOLATING THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY INCLUDES:

possession, use, or in the presence of alcohol, other drugs and/or tobacco/vape and tobacco/vape products. Use of tobacco/vape products by Winnacunnet High School athletes is prohibited, regardless of age.

2. STEALING, VANDALISM OR ANY CRIMINAL ACTS:

Violations of this rule will be investigated by the coach. When the violation is confirmed appropriate action will be taken. This action will include a ten (10) to twenty-five (25) days suspension or removal from the team.

3. GROSS MISCONDUCT:

Gross misconduct includes but is not limited to:

- a. Assault on a coach, official, opponent or spectator
- b. Leaving a contest in anger during the event or interrupting the flow of the game with unsportsmanlike behavior
- c. Obscene language, threats and/or gestures directed at the coach, officials or spectators
- d. Any behavior deemed not appropriate for a student representing Winnacunnet High School sports or behavior or actions that bring dishonor to the individual, team or school.
- e. Harassment, intimidation, sexual harassment or hazing of students
- f. Text messages or inappropriate use of social media towards a teammate, fellow student and/or athlete, opponent, coach or others may result in immediate removal from the team.

Behavior deemed as gross misconduct will be reviewed by the coach, Director of Athletics and the Principal. If in violation of this code, the athlete will be suspended for a minimum of ten (10) days or up to possible removal from the team.

Practice days and game days during school vacation will be counted as school days. Athletes must obey any additional team rules set by their individual coaches.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE

I. ATHLETIC INSURANCE:

Athletes playing sports are not automatically covered by school insurance. Parents of athletes are encouraged to purchase school insurance even if you have other coverage. Detailed information concerning the policy is distributed to each student on the first day of school in the fall or can be obtained through the athletic office in August. Football insurance will no longer be provided by the school.

Accident or injury insurance will be made available to those students engaging in any school activity, except football, at the option and expense of the parent or guardian of each student. Parents/guardians are urged to take advantage of this insurance coverage for those students taking part in athletic activities or to provide a parental release.

II. DUE PROCESS:

When a decision is rendered for a violation of the athletic code, the athlete involved, with his/her parents, has the right to a hearing with the Principal, Director of Athletics and Coach. This request must be made within seven (7) days after the decision is rendered.

Communication is key to any organization or group. It is important for the success of your child and the program to communicate to the coach any issues or concerns you may have. It is expected that the coach will communicate the same types of concerns to the student athlete and family. Please refer to the Winnacunnet High School Parent/Coach Communication Guide for further information.

Parents or students with questions regarding any part of this document should first contact the respective coach. If s/he cannot answer the concern, contact the Director of Athletics. If you feel the need to pursue the question, contact the high school principal.

III. ATHLETIC EVENTS ON THE WEB:

Daily and season schedules can be accessed on the web at www.winnacunnetathletics.org or www.winnacunnet.org You may also download the free app. Search **NIAAA** in the apple or google play store.



When games are postponed or cancelled they will be noted on these sites and by text message.

*Updated 5.10.18
with NHIAA By-Law changes 6.6.18
Approved by WHS School Board 5.16.18*