

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The School District of Fort Atkinson does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap, in its education programs or activities.

This handbook has been prepared for the benefit of the athlete, the parents/guardians and the coaches in an effort to provide information about interscholastic athletics as a part of the overall school program.

We are most anxious to have the parents/guardians and athletes not only know the rules and regulations governing athletic participation, but also to approve of these rules and regulations. To make this phase of the athlete's education more meaningful, we ask that parents/guardians affix their signature, along with the student athlete's, to the back page of this handbook and return it as soon as possible to the high school office.

GO BLACKHAWKS!!!!!!



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The athletic program is an integral part of our school district's educational program that provides our students with enriching and healthful experiences in which physical, mental and social growth shall be stimulated. Participation in athletics provides opportunities and experiences that are difficult to duplicate in other school activities. These experiences are developmental in nature and consider the age related characteristics and needs of our students as they move through the grades. The School District of Fort Atkinson believes the following to be true:

1. Athletics are a **privilege** made available to students who abide by the rules and regulations. Students involved in athletics have an obligation to present a positive image to fellow students and the general public; such as abstaining from drug and alcohol use and inappropriate behavior.
2. Athletics are secondary to academics and are made available only if the student meets the academic eligibility requirements.
3. Athletics provide an opportunity for athletes to learn the value of sportsmanship, discipline, responsibility and teamwork.
4. Athletics provide for physical development, a sense of accomplishment and pride in one's team and school.
5. Athletics provide an opportunity to sharpen the intellect, improve concentration, decision-making, leadership, perseverance and dedication.
6. The developmental needs of students necessitate different philosophies and practices at each level of athletic participation.

Participation in athletics is a progression from the middle school level to the high school varsity level. The emphasis at the middle school level is on skill development, teamwork, strategy, sportsmanship and participation. While skill development, teamwork, strategy and sportsmanship continue to be important and are further developed at the high school level, athletics become more competitive with more of an emphasis on winning. The skill level and developmental level of the athlete is also more important in determining how much an athlete plays and at what level (freshmen, JV or varsity). While we would like to see all students that try out for a team be able to participate, the number of spots and opportunities to play may limit the number of athletes that make a team, and sometimes necessitate coaches to make cuts.

Athletes in freshmen programs (open only to freshmen students) should all be given the opportunity to participate. This does not mean that all athletes play an equal amount of time. Furthermore, not all members of a team may get to play in every game or contest. Playing time is still the decision of the coach.

At the JV level, the progression toward varsity athletics continues with an increased emphasis on winning. While every JV athlete (conference regulations allow juniors and/or seniors in some sports to play down, but many times this level is limited to 9th and 10th grade students only) should be given the opportunity to participate, this does not mean that all athletes play an equal amount of time. Furthermore, not all members of a team may get to play in every game or contest. Playing time is still the decision of the coach.

At the varsity level, (athletes in grades 9-12, with the best skills in a specific program) being competitive and winning is emphasized more strongly than at any other level. It is the decision of the coach who will play in each game or contest to give the team the best opportunity to be successful. This means, that during the season, some athletes at the varsity level will see considerably less playing time than others on the team. While it is a reality that some varsity athletes may not play, we believe that being a member of the team is still a valuable experience.

Concepts/Skills	Middle School		High School		
	7 th grade	8 th grade	Frosh	JV	Varsity
Teamwork/Relations	X	X	X	X	X
Good Sportsmanship	X	X	X	X	X
Skill Development/Strategy	X	X	X	X	X
Amount of Play	All play during season, not equal amounts	All play during season, not equal amounts	All play during season, not equal amounts	All play during season, not equal amounts	Not all students will play
Competitive Play	X	X	X	Greater emphasis on winning	Greater emphasis on winning
Competition for Position	Competition among 7 th gr.	Competition among 8 th gr.	Competition among 9 th gr.	Competition among 9-12 gr.	Competition among 9-12

X = indicates a focus on the concept/skill

SPONSORED SPORTS AT F.A.H.S.

<u>FALL</u>	<u>WINTER</u>	<u>SPRING</u>
Football	Boys' Basketball	Baseball
Boys' Cross Country	Girls' Basketball	Boys' Golf
Girls' Cross Country	Boys' Swimming	Girls' Soccer
Boys' Soccer	Wrestling	Softball
Girls' Golf	Poms/Cheerleading	Boys' Tennis
Girls' Swimming		Boys' Track
Girls' Tennis		Girls' Track
Boys' Volleyball		
Girls' Volleyball		
Poms/Cheerleading		

WIAA REGULATIONS

YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE IF:

1. You reach nineteen (19) years of age prior to August 1.
2. You have attended more than eight (8) semesters after entering grade 9, or if your seventh and eighth semesters do not follow consecutively
3. You have participated in school sports for all, or part of, four (4) seasons.
4. You and parent/guardian do not live in the school district in which you attend school, (this does not apply to open enrollment students) unless the WIAA office has approved your residence situation.
5. You do not have on file, in your school office, evidence of both having passed a physical examination administered by a licensed physician and having received parental permission to participate in athletics.
- 6. You do not follow the code of conduct established by your school. The code of conduct is in effect twelve (12) months of the year.**
7. You have violated your status as an amateur athlete by (a) accepting any amount of money or any kind of usable merchandise, (b) signing a contract for your services as an athlete, (c) permitting your name, picture or personal appearance to be used for promoting anything or (d) playing under another name.
8. You, at any time, have received an award of merchandise value such as a jacket, sweater, watch, billfold, etc, in recognition of your talent or accomplishment as an athlete.

9. You participate in a contest other than for your official interscholastic school team while you are a member of that school team and during the entire school season (start of practice to end of season) of that sport.
10. You have played in an all-star contest.
11. You let anyone besides your parent/guardian pay a fee for specialized training, like a summer camp, or if you are instructed by your school coach outside the season of a sport.
- 12. You have more than one failing grade.**

Your school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, and the rules and regulations of the WIAA govern both your participation in high school athletics and your sports activity outside of school.

WIAA/FORT ATKINSON HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY RULES

In order to promote good sportsmanship and respect for rules and authority, establish leadership, team pride, teamwork, team discipline, as well as eliminate disruptive behaviors, disturbances in the locker room, on the training field, on the playing field, on trips, and off school grounds, the following rules are established:

1. All athletes must have a physical examination and have a WIAA exam card on file in the high school office.
2. It is recommended that all athletes have a dental examination.
3. All athletes must have paid their participation fee to the high school office.
4. All athletes must have a parent or guardian attest to parental permission.
5. All athletes and their parents must sign the pledge card and return it to the high school office.
6. All athletes must pass a minimum of 25 hours of work (five full credits) and receive no more than one failing grade in any grading period to maintain academic eligibility. Grades are checked at the end of the 1st quarter, 1st semester, 3rd quarter, and 2nd semester.
FALL SPORTS: Ineligibility extends 21 consecutive calendar days as of the first date of competition (if before the first day of school). It shall not, however, extend over more than (3) football games, (8) soccer games, (5) volleyball matches, (4) cross country meets, (5) golf meets, (5) tennis meets, (5) swim meets.
WINTER/SPRING SPORTS: Ineligibility extends 15 school days from the date grades are posted. A student who becomes academically ineligible may regain eligibility on the 16th scheduled school day by meeting the academic standard following a period of 15 scheduled school days of ineligibility.
7. All athletes are to refrain from the use of profanity during interscholastic athletics. This pertains to practice and competition.
8. **All athletes are required to use the mode of transportation provided by the school while participating in interscholastic athletics. Special requests, in writing, must be directed to the Athletic Director if an athlete will not be using the school's mode of transportation. A 'travel release' form must be filled out and signed by the parent/guardian and must have approval of the Athletic Director. Failure to follow this rule may result in a 1 game suspension. Fort Atkinson High School will assume no responsibility for any athlete who uses his/her own mode of transportation to a contest and attempts to travel to the contest site on his/her own.**
9. Any questions relative to off-season participation should be directed to the Athletic Director. Athletes are reminded that participation on non-school teams may be a violation of WIAA rules and result in ineligibility.
10. **If an athlete is not in school during the afternoon session of classes, he/she may not practice or participate in a contest on that day, unless special permission is granted by the Athletic Director. Pre-arranged absences are the only exception to this rule.**
11. Any student-athlete receiving an unexcused absence or truancy during his/her sports season will not be allowed to practice or participate in a contest on the day of the violation or on the day the unexcused absence is discovered or on the day the athlete returns to school. A single class truancy will result in the same suspension unless there are extenuating circumstances. Suspensions will increase with repeated offenses.

12. Athletes are expected to be in all classes the day after a contest or competition. Non-compliance may result in a one game suspension.
13. Athletes kept after school or on Saturday for disciplinary reasons shall not be allowed to participate in practice or contests during the time and date specified in the disciplinary action. Also, athletes serving an in school or out of school suspension shall not be allowed to participate in practice or contests on the date specified in the disciplinary action.
14. **A coach or advisor of a team may set other rules and regulations for their activity which may go beyond the scope of those listed here.**

FORT ATKINSON HIGH SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

****This code is in effect twelve (12) months a year****

The following rules, in compliance with the W.I.A.A., exist to ensure the best interests of Fort Atkinson High School athletes.

An athlete shall be suspended from interscholastic athletics for:

1. **Use or possession of tobacco (smoking and/or chewing).**
2. **Possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs or controlled substances as defined by Wisconsin State law.**
3. **Possession, consumption, or sale of intoxicants including all fermented malt beverages, wine and intoxicating liquors as defined by Wisconsin State law.**
4. **Attendance at parties where there is illegal consumption of alcohol or use of other controlled substances is considered a violation and will result in a suspension whether the athlete consumed alcohol or used any other controlled substance or not.**
5. **Any criminally related activity (shoplifting, burglary, vandalism, etc.), or municipal ordinance violation.**
6. Any behavior deemed "code unbecoming an athlete" including, but not limited to:
 - a. Acts of immorality or any other unacceptable conduct (fighting, harassment, insubordination, etc.), in or out of school, which makes an athlete unqualified to represent the ideals, principles, students of our school, and/or the Wisconsin Athletic Association.
 - b. Stealing
 - c. Flagrant misbehavior in class
 - d. Poor school attendance
 - e. Out of school suspension
 - f. Disorderly conduct as defined by state law in or out of school
 - g. Harassment
 - h. Hazing
 - i. **Improper use of the internet (MySpace, FaceBook, inappropriate websites or e-mailing during school hours).**

Suspensions for #6 will be carried out on a case-by-case basis, determined by administration.

CODE VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A coach or advisor may make the penalty more severe. However, the penalty as stated in the Code of Conduct or that of the co-curricular board may not be lessened.

For code violations 1 – 5:

First Violation: The athlete will be suspended from a minimum of one third (33%) of the season's contests in which he/she is currently participating, or the next season in which the athlete chooses to participate.

Second Violation: The athlete will be suspended from a minimum of two-thirds (66%) of the season's contests in which he/she is currently participating, or the next season in which the athlete chooses to participate.

Third Violation: The athlete will be suspended from all co-curricular activities for one calendar year from the date of the incident.

The chart below may be used to calculate the number of contest/performances which a participant will need to miss for a first and second violation of the Code of Conduct.

# of Contests	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1st violation	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	6	6	6	7
2 nd violation	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	5	6	7	7	8	8	8	10	10	11	12	12	13

If a suspension carries over into the WIAA tournament series, the athlete will miss the entire tournament series. This clause pertains to team tournaments as well as the individual tournament series.

ATHLETIC DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES

1. Suspensions that overlap two (2) different sports seasons shall be pro-rated to the number of contests in each season.
2. Suspensions are interpreted to mean one athletic contest. In the sports where doubleheaders, quads, and multi-duals exist, the athletic department will prorate the games or matches played on that day and apply the appropriate game suspension.
- 3. Suspensions may not be served while a student is academically ineligible.**
4. Athletes with suspensions to serve, or who are academically ineligible, may be allowed to participate in scrimmages (playing time will be at the discretion of the head coach).
5. An athlete who has been suspended indefinitely for code of conduct violations may request a co-curricular board meeting to review the suspension after one calendar year of ineligibility from the date of the third violation. The board may reinstate a suspended athlete if he/she demonstrates the desire and attitude to return to the program.
- 6. Athletes suspended for first or second violations are expected to practice during their suspension and must complete the season in good standing, or the suspension will be reassigned.**

7. Disciplinary action due to code of conduct violations will carry over from one sport season to the next and from one year to the next.
8. The code of conduct rules are not violated in situations including family/religious traditions. In these situations parents/guardians must be present. It is expected that proper conduct would be maintained while under parental supervision.
9. An athlete suspended for any code of conduct violation will be ineligible for captain, MVP, and all end of the year awards during the sport season(s) in which the suspension is served.

PENALTY REDUCTION FOR HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

For the first violation only, if the athlete comes in voluntarily, within three days of the incident, and cooperates in resolving all aspects of the violation, the penalty may be reduced by **one** contest. **This will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or Administration.**

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE (AODA) INFORMATION

Student-athletes violating code of conduct rules may be referred to the Student Assistance Program. If a student-athlete self-refers himself/herself, or a parent/guardian refers a son/daughter to the Student Assistance Program, there will be no suspension. However, this does not include specific violations which are discovered and reported. In these cases, a suspension will occur.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

1. After a ruling of ineligibility results in suspension from an athletic activity, the athlete and his/her parents/guardians may appeal the decision in writing to the high school Athletic Director, provided the appeal is made within five (5) school days of receipt of the ineligibility notice.
2. After an appeal has been received, a date for a co-curricular board hearing shall be scheduled by the high school Athletic Director. The hearing will be held within five (5) school days of receipt of the appeal. The athlete and his/her parents/guardians may appear before the board and will be provided the opportunity to testify and present other evidence to the board. The purpose of the board is to judge whether a code of conduct violation occurred. The board will consist of six members, including: the athletic director, the high school principal, a non-coaching teacher, two coaches, and one community member (serving a one-year term). The decision of the co-curricular board shall be delivered to the athlete and his/her parents, in writing, within five (5) school days.

3. If an athlete and his/her parents/guardians wish to appeal the decision of the co-curricular board, they shall submit their appeal to the Principal, in writing, within five (5) school days of the receipt of the board's decision. The Principal shall inform the athlete and his/her parents/guardians of his/her decision, in writing, within five (5) school days.
4. If the athlete and his/her parents/guardians wish to appeal the decision of the Principal, they shall submit their appeal to the Superintendent, in writing, within five (5) school days of receipt of the principal's decision. The Superintendent shall inform the athlete and his/her parents/guardians of his/her decision, in writing, within five (5) school days.
5. If the athlete and his/her parents/guardians wish to appeal the decision of the Superintendent they shall submit their appeal to the Board of Education, in writing, within five (5) school days of receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The Board of Education shall hear the appeal at a reasonable time thereafter and shall provide a written decision to the student and his/her parents/guardians. The decision of the Board of Education shall be final.

If the student-athlete and his/her parents/guardians file an appeal, the records will not be a part of the student-athlete's other records.

FORT ATKINSON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Parent/Athlete/Coach Expectations

Parenting and coaching are extremely challenging vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's expectations, we are better able to accept the actions of both parties and provide greater benefits to the student/athlete. When a child becomes involved in a co-curricular activity, parents and coaches have a right to understand what EXPECTATIONS are going to be placed on the athlete and on each other. This begins with clear communication from the athlete, parent, coach, and the athletic department.

Communications That Parents/Athletes Should Expect From Coaches:

1. The expectations the coaches have for their children and all team members.
2. Location and times of all practices.
3. Team requirements, fees, special equipment, game dress, off-season opportunities.
4. The policy dealing with excused and unexcused absences. (What will the consequence be for missing a practice/game because of vacation, etc.?)
5. The F.A.H.S. and WIAA requirements for eligibility.
6. Team rules beyond the F.A.H.S. Athletic Code
7. The lettering requirements.
8. The coach's act as a role model for good sportsmanship, use of appropriate language, promoting a healthy environment and safe teaching techniques.
9. Well-planned practices.

Expectations/Communications Coaches Should Expect From the Athlete and Parents:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts that may occur, well in advance of the season (ex: vacation).
2. Special concerns regarding coaching expectations. (Practice requirements, etc.)
3. Support for the F.A.H.S. Athletic Code and all team rules.
4. Support for all team members and coaching staff.
5. Positive support at games for their son/daughter, their teammates, and the coaching staff.
6. Exhibit good sportsmanship and appropriate language by the athlete and parents at games and/or practices.
7. A great work ethic at practices and in games.
8. If the athlete has a concern, the parents should encourage their son/daughter to speak with the coach or coaching staff.
9. Parents should not expect to meet with a coach before or after a game to communicate concerns. Any meeting with the coach is to be scheduled in advance.

Appropriate Concerns Athlete/Parent May Address With Coaching Staff:

1. The treatment of the athlete mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help the athlete mentally and physically.
3. Concerns about the athletes' behavior in school/practices/games.

Areas That Are Not Appropriate For Parents To Discuss With Coaches:

1. An individuals playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play selections
4. The make-up of the team and the decision as to who plays on a particular team
5. Other members of the team, other parents, and other coaches

The Proper Method To Address a Concern:

Step One:

The athlete speaks with the coach. (I would suggest the coaching staff be involved/present when this conference takes place.) Parents should help the child prepare to discuss his/her concerns with the coach, to empower them to take responsibility.

Step Two:

If the meeting between the athlete and the coach does not resolve the concern, the parent should schedule a conference with the coach (with the student-athlete present).

Please do not approach a coach before or after a contest. If the coach cannot be reached, the parent should contact the athletic director and he will arrange for the coach to contact the parent.

Step Three:

If the conference between the parent/athlete does not resolve the concern, there will be a meeting set up by the athletic director. The A.D. will moderate the conference.

The conference will deal with the specific issues that the parent/athlete has. Both parties will be allowed to speak in an uninterrupted manner. The conference will be in a non-threatening environment.

Step Four:

If there is no resolution, the parent must put in writing his/her concern(s) and submit to the District Administrator. Within ten days after receipt of the letter, the District Administrator will meet with the parent(s) in an effort to resolve the concern(s).

A. Responsibilities of Fort Atkinson Athletes

The **privilege** of participating in our athletic program is extended to all students, provided they are willing to assume certain responsibilities. Therefore, it is required that each athlete:

1. Displays a high standard of social behavior, and follows the code of conduct
2. Displays appropriate sportsmanship
3. Displays respect for those in authority

B. Care of Equipment

One of the values of athletics is to teach responsibility. This should apply to the care of athletic equipment as well as other school property. The school attempts to provide the best and safest equipment. We expect each athlete to take excellent care of this equipment.

1. The original equipment issued to an athlete must be returned at the close of the season. Substitution of equipment among athletes cannot be permitted.
2. Athletes are not allowed to wear clothes or use equipment belonging to another school.
3. Athletes are not allowed to wear school practice or game equipment to physical education class, at home or around town.
4. All game/meet uniforms must be washed at the high school.
5. Athletes will be held financially responsible for all equipment that is issued to them and not returned at the conclusion of the season for whatever reason.

C. Athletic Injuries

1. All injuries should be reported to the supervising coach or advisor immediately. Unreported injuries can lead to serious complications and increased time lost from competition.
2. Our team doctor and trainer are specifically trained in the care of athletic injuries. However, we urge use of your family physician. Very often, a complete history of an athlete's health plays an important part in the care of athletic injuries.
3. Please inform the coaching staff of any special medical problems or medical history your son/daughter may have that may be important in the handling of an athletic injury.
4. Should an injury be discovered after a participant has returned home, the coach of the sport should be contacted as soon as possible.
5. Return to play policy – Injured athletes should be seen by the athletic trainer and/or doctor. It should be the decision of the athletic trainer and/or doctor when the athlete is able to return to practice and competition. If an athlete is seen by a doctor the athlete must obtain a release from the doctor to return to practice and competition and must give the release to the coach. If an injured athlete does not see the trainer or a doctor, the decision to return to play should be made by the athlete and his/her parents. If parents and/or coaches overrule or ignore the athletic trainer's and/or doctor's decision regarding the case and return to play date of an injured athlete, they will assume any legal responsibility.

D. Changing Sports

No athlete may withdraw from one sport and begin another sport during the same season, except by permission of the Athletic Director. An athlete cut from one sport may try out for another sport during the same season.

E. Competition

1. Badger Conference rules prohibit a senior from competing in junior varsity level competition in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, volleyball and wrestling. Freshmen are eligible to play on junior varsity and varsity teams, but may not be able to return to the freshman level of competition.
2. Badger Conference prohibits athletes from participating in more than one sport per season.

F. Postponement & Cancellation Policy

Whenever school is not held because of inclement weather, the following procedures will be followed:

1. If school is completely canceled in the morning because of snow, ice, cold, or other dangerous conditions, athletic teams may practice only if it can be determined that the dangerous conditions are no longer threatening. This decision shall be made jointly by the athletic director and principal. The practice time shall be similarly determined. Whether to play a contest on such days shall be determined in the same way but also in conjunction with the scheduled opposing school.
2. If the start of school is delayed, there would be no effect on after school meetings, practices or contests. However, no morning practices or meetings may be held on days with delayed starts.
3. If weather conditions necessitate sending students home before the regularly scheduled end of the school day, **NO ATHLETIC PRACTICES OR OTHER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SHALL BE HELD.**
4. The Badger Conference policy concerning postponements and/or cancellations will be adhered to. It shall be the responsibility of the home school athletic director and/or principal to initiate all negotiations for postponement or cancellation and supervise the notification of all concerned personnel. It is the home school's responsibility to re-contract with officials. In case of postponement, the contest will be played on the next available date, including Saturdays.

G. College Recruitment Policy

In the event a college recruiter should contact you personally, we encourage you to work with your coach and the athletic department. Inform your coach of such contact as soon as possible. The guidance office will have information also.

H. Athletic Award Criteria

1. Numerals – An athlete in ninth grade who completes the season in good standing will receive numerals (one set per athlete).
2. Sport patch – An athlete in tenth grade who completes the season in good standing will receive a sport patch.
3. Chenille Varsity "F" – An athlete who completes the requirements for a varsity "F" for the first time and completes the season in good standing shall be awarded a varsity letter "F" and a letter certificate. See each individual coach's handbook for specific lettering requirements.

4. Chenille Varsity “FA” – An athlete who earns a second varsity “F” in the same sport shall be awarded a varsity “FA” and a letter certificate.
5. Letter certificate – An athlete who earns additional varsity letters shall be awarded a letter certificate only.
6. End of the year awards – Each year these awards are presented at the Spring Athletic Banquet:
 - A.) WIAA Scholar Athlete Award – awarded to a senior male and female who show academic and athletic excellence.
 - B.) U.S. Army Reserve Scholar Athlete – awarded to a junior or senior, male and female, based on athletic achievement, leadership and academics.
 - C.) American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary Award – awarded to a senior male and female who demonstrate citizenship, character, sportsmanship and athletics.
 - D.) Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award – awarded to a junior or senior, male and female, based on citizenship, athletic leadership and character. Also known as the ‘unsung varsity athlete’ award.
 - E.) Rotary Sportsmanship Award – given to one male and one female based on leadership, sportsmanship and team spirit.
 - F.) Athlete of the Year Award – awarded to one male and one female’s athletic achievement for that year only.

BADGER CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDE

The Badger Conference believes that good sportsmanship is essential to a successful high school athletic program. With this in mind, the Badger Conference strongly supports the following fundamentals of sportsmanship.

1. Respect is to be shown opponents at all times. The opponent should be treated as a guest, greeted cordially on arriving, given the best accommodations, and accorded the tolerance, honesty and generosity, which all human beings deserve.
2. **Officials are to be accorded respect at all times. Officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.**
3. The rules of the contest are to be known, understood, and appreciated. A familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of their necessity for a fair contest is essential. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
4. **Self-control must always be maintained. A prerequisite of good sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own bias or prejudice and the ability to prevent the desire to win from overcoming rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of all involved in the game.**
5. Skill in performance regardless of affiliation is to be recognized and appreciated. Applause for an opponent’s good performance is a demonstration of generosity and good will that should not be looked upon as treason. The ability to recognize quality in performance is one of the most highly commendable gestures of good sportsmanship.

This sportsmanship guide has been developed in an attempt to foster appropriate conduct and good sportsmanship among all of the conference schools. The primary objective of this guide is to develop a positive atmosphere at all events sponsored by the Badger Conference.

Good sportsmanship is exemplified by:

- Cheering with the cheerleaders
- Standing for school songs of both schools
- Standing and being attentive when the National Anthem is being played.
- Coaches, athletes and spectators showing respect for the officials
- Showing respect for your opponent (example: during team introductions)
- Being attentive and courteous to visiting cheerleaders

Examples of poor sportsmanship are:

- Stomping on bleachers
- Throwing objects onto playing area
- Use of noisemakers of any kind
- Use of cheers that taunt or ridicule the opponent
- Booming

Badger Conference rules governing conduct at athletic contests:

- No banners or posters are to be brought by visiting schools to any athletic event for display. Banners and posters may be displayed only by the host school.
- Manufactured noisemakers are not allowed at athletic events. This includes any and all types of noisemakers or articles that could be used to increase volume, specifically megaphones.
- Stomping and kicking of bleachers is prohibited.
- The first cheer during a time-out of a basketball game will be the privilege of a visiting school and that thereafter the cheerleaders alternate in leading cheers.
- The Badger Conference will follow the W.I.A.A. tournament rule pertaining to stereos and other radio or audio equipment. This rule shall be applied to all contests.
- Megaphones shall not be used by cheerleaders or spectators at indoor events.
- Pep bands, and parts thereof, or any use of audio facilities are not allowed to play while the game is in progress.

COACHES

1. Treats own players and opponents with respect.
2. Inspires in the athletes a love for the game and the desire to compete fairly.
3. Is expected to serve as a good role model of sportsmanship and positive leadership.
4. Disciplines those on the team who display unsportsmanlike behavior.
5. Respects the judgment and interpretation of the rules by the officials.
6. Knows he/she is a teacher and understands the athletic arena is a classroom.
7. Is responsible for the supervision of their athletes before, during and after games.

PLAYERS

1. All players will be in serviced on their school's Athletic Code of Conduct and on sportsmanship expectations during a mandatory rules interpretation session prior to each athletic season.
2. Badger Conference players involved in any unsportsmanlike conduct, which results in ejection from an athletic contest, will be suspended from the next contest. The intent of this rule is that any player ejected will sit out the next contest whether it is a conference game, a non-conference game, or a tournament game.
3. Vandalism and/or theft to or from the host school facilities may result in referral to local law enforcement agencies for prosecution under local ordinances, and will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the school's student handbook.
4. Expectations of players:
 - Treats opponents with respect.
 - Plays hard, but plays within the rules.
 - Exercises self-control at all times, setting the examples for others to follow.
 - Respects officials and accepts their decisions without gestures or argument.
 - Wins without boasting, loses without excuses, and never quits.
 - Always remembers that it a **privilege** to represent the school and community.

SPECTATORS

1. Attempts to understand and be informed of the playing rules.
2. Appreciates a good play no matter who makes it.
3. Cooperates with and responds enthusiastically to cheerleaders.
4. Shows compassion for an injured player; applauds positive performances; does not heckle, jeer or distract players; and avoids use of profane and obnoxious language and behavior.
5. Respects the judgment and strategy of the coach and does not criticize players or coaches for loss of a game.
6. Respects property of others and authority of those who administer the competition.
7. Censures those whose behavior is unsportsmanlike.
8. The host school will notify the administration of the visiting school about any students who may have had to be removed from the event. Cooperation is expected. Failure to follow these expectations will result in removal from the gymnasium.
9. The principals will work through the student councils to foster sportsmanship and inter-school respect and cooperation.



High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin

To: Student-Athletes and Their Parents

From: Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and **FORT ATKINSON HIGH SCHOOL**

Your high school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. The following rules and regulations are developed by the member schools of the WIAA and govern the participation by boys and girls in school athletics and in some instances, impact upon sports activities outside the school.

This information bulletin is a **summary** of the WIAA OFFICIAL HANDBOOK as it pertains to those rules and regulations. Both student-athletes and their parents should have an understanding of these requirements. Equally important is that student-athletes and/or parents talk to their principal or athletic director if they have any question about these regulations. For additional information on Rules of Eligibility see the WIAA Handbook, or visit the WIAA website at www.wiaawi.org.

This bulletin does not discuss specific penalties for all violations. The reason is that penalties vary depending upon the nature of the violation. In addition, schools often have established penalties or periods of ineligibility which are greater than the minimum prescribed by WIAA rules.

There also are exceptions and other permissive provisions in some rules. Student-athletes and their parents should discuss all athletic eligibility related situations with the school principal or athletic director who, if necessary, will get a decision, interpretation, or opinion from the WIAA office.

Student-athletes, as well as parents are asked to read this bulletin, then sign it and have their signature statement (attached) on file at their school prior to practicing and competing.

These are WIAA eligibility rules:

AGE

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

ACADEMICS

A student-athlete must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent school issued grade reporting period. Note: Some member schools adopt code and academic policies and other participation requirements which are more stringent than WIAA minimum requirements. In those instances the schools requirements prevail and must be applied as written.

ATTENDANCE

A student-athlete is eligible for interscholastic competition at a member school if he/she is carried on the attendance rolls as a duly enrolled full-time Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 student in that member school. (Subject to satisfying all other eligibility requirements.)

Note: A full-time student is further defined as one where the member school is responsible for programming 100% of the student's school day. The student is eligible for like or similar awards, privileges and services as all the other students and meets all obligations and responsibilities as other students, without exception.

- A. A student must complete eligibility in the four consecutive years starting with Grade 9 and the three consecutive years starting with Grade 10, unless there are documented extenuating circumstances and a waiver has been provided.
- B. A student is ineligible if he/she has graduated from a school offering studies through Grade 12 or its equivalent.
- C. A student who graduated in May or June retains eligibility for (a) any portion of a spring athletic schedule not completed by the end of the academic year and (b) the school's summer athletic schedule.
- D. A student is ineligible if he/she has not been enrolled in some school by the 17th day of a semester or trimester, except upon request of a school in special cases involving sickness, accident, military service, social services assignment, e.g.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school sports in more than four different years, and a student-athlete may not participate in the same sport more than one season each school year.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district, with these additional provisions:

- A. Board of Education approved full-time student(s), paying their own tuition and residing full time with parents in their primary residence shall be afforded eligibility. Transfer students are subject to provisions outlined in the transfers section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.
- B. The residence of a student's guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.

- C. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility, except in situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the transfer and/or waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook.
- D. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state and is enrolled in a district approved program may be eligible at either school (first priority to school of residence) but (a) may not participate at both schools in the same year and (b) academic ineligibility accompanies student upon transfer. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- E. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state or who is participating full time in a legislated open enrollment option must meet all statutory timeline requirements. This provision extends the opportunity to decline attendance at the new school and continue at his/her school of residence. If the student begins the school year at the new school and then transfers back to school of residence after attending one or more days of school or one or more athletic practices, he/she shall be subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer Section of this document.
- F. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's attendance boundaries, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- G. After a student-athlete has not participated and/or has had their eligibility restricted for one calendar year due to reasons relating to residence and/or transfer, he/she becomes eligible.
- H. A student-athlete will not be eligible if his/her attendance at a particular school resulted from undue influence (special consideration because of athletic ability) on the part of any person.
- I. A student-athlete who has been declared ineligible at a school for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons or due to another State Association's provision retains that ineligibility status if he/she transfers to another school.
- J. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer students are subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only if the student is residing full time with parents in their primary residence with these additional provisions:

- A. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year'. Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- B. Residing full time with guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- C. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's traditional attendance area, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- D. Except in situations involving mid-year transfer and/or transfer after the fourth consecutive semester students attending member residential schools shall be eligible at the member school provided they reside at the school or reside full time with parents in their primary residence.
- E. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student attending a nonpublic school but not residing in accordance with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers.

TRANSFERS

A full-time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9.

Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

- A. A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.
- B. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.
- C. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 11th and/or 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to practice and/or compete for one calendar year.
- D. 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved may be provided nonvarsity opportunities for the remainder of the school year. Restrictions are removed upon entering 10th grade.

- E. 10th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved may be provided nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- F. In the event of divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility for students entering 9th and/or 10th grade. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to practice and compete for one calendar year.
- G. District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supercede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-4th semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 result in the student being ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- H. Unless transfer, including an accompanying change of parents residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.
- I. If within the first four consecutive semesters following entry into grade 9, a student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that current school year and will be eligible for nonvarsity opportunities only for the balance of the calendar year. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to practice and compete for one calendar year.
- J. A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
- K. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
- L. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION and PARENT'S PERMISSION

A student-athlete whether an adult or not, must have written permission of parents to participate in school athletics and he/she must have a physical examination (signed by a licensed physician or advanced practice nurse prescriber) every other school year.

A physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years. Physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and the following school year.

TRAINING and CONDUCT

A student-athlete must follow his/her school's code of conduct (training rules) on a year-round basis.

- A. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct during the season of a sport (start of practice to final game) must be suspended from competition for a period of time specified in the code (minimum of one meet) if the violation involves (a) possession and/or use of alcohol, (b) possession and/or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco and (c) use, possession, buying or selling of controlled substances, street drugs and performance enhancing substances (PES).
- B. The member school will determine minimum penalties for violation of any other provisions of its code of conduct, including out of season offenses and for any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principals and standards of the school and this Association including but not limited to criminal behavior.
- C. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct at times other than during the actual season of a sport must be disciplined by the school, the nature of such discipline to be determined by the school as indicated in its code of conduct.
- D. A student-athlete who violates any part of the school or WIAA's code of conduct resulting in suspension of WIAA-sponsored tournament competition must be immediately declared ineligible for the remainder of tournament series in that sport.
- E. A student-athlete, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is also suspended from the next competitive event.
- F. A school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to a penalty being enforced. If a student appeals a suspension, according to the schools appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.

AMATEUR STATUS

A student-athlete must be an amateur in all recognized sports of this association in order to compete in any WIAA sport.

- A. A student-athlete may not accept, receive or direct to another, reimbursement in any form of cash or merchandise such as shirts, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, warm-ups, equipment, balls, duffelbags, backpacks, watches, rings, billfolds, coupons, gift certificates, regardless of their value for athletic accomplishments, such as being on a winning team, being selected for the school varsity team, or being a place winner in an individual tournament, e.g.
- B. A student-athlete may receive awards for school achievement which are symbolic (non utilitarian) in nature – badges, certificates, trophies, medals, banners, ribbons, pictures, plaques, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, unattached emblems, letters, season highlight DVD or video, e.g.
- C. A student-athlete may not receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete. This includes receiving free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for all other participants.

- D. A student-athlete may not be identified as an athlete, provide endorsement as an athlete or appear as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan, or service.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school athletics or in sports activities outside the school under a name other than his/her own name.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

A student-athlete in a given sport may not compete in that same sport outside of school either as a team member or an individual or independent entry during the same time he/she is participating with the school team.

- A. WIAA rules do not prevent athletes from practicing with nonschool teams or from receiving private skills instruction during the school season. However, they may not participate in any nonschool games, including scrimmages against other teams.
 - (1) This restriction applies to normal nonschool games as well as "gimmicks," such as reduced numbers competition (3-on-3 basketball, 6 player soccer, e.g.), specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests, free throws, 3 point, e.g.), fun runs, etc.
 - (2) A student who was a member of a school team during the previous year may not delay reporting for the school team beyond the school's official opening day of practice in order to continue nonschool training and/or competition.
- B. During the school year before and/or after the school season of a sport, a student-athlete may participate in sport activities outside of school with these restrictions:
 - (1) A student-athlete must not participate in nonschool programs, activities, camps, clinics and/or competition that is limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
 - (2) Nonschool activities in which students are engaged may not resemble in any way a school team practicing or competing out-of-season.
- C. In the summer nonschool roster restrictions are not in effect and members of a schools team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates (without school and/or school coach involvement) at their own discretion.
- D. A student-athlete or his/her parents must pay the fee for specialized training or instruction such as camps, clinics, and similar programs.
- E. A student-athlete may not be instructed except during the school season of a sport and approved summer contact days by the person who will be his/her coach in that sport in the following school season. The sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, softball, swimming, tennis, track & field, and wrestling are exempt from this rule, BUT only (a) during the summer months and (b) if the program involved is not limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
- F. A student-athlete must not participate in an all-star game or similar contest except for summertime activities (a) within the same league or program (e.g., softball game between divisions of same league) or (b) in which a team is selected to represent a league in post-season play (e.g., Babe Ruth league team). Some post-season all-star opportunities may be permitted for 12th graders who have completed high school eligibility in a particular sport. Check with your Athletic Director to be certain.

Parent/Student Acknowledgement

I have read the Fort Atkinson High School Code of Conduct Handbook for Athletics and understand and accept all of the rules and consequences listed within. By signing the code, I agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations listed in the Code. I understand the rules are in effect the entire school year and apply to all school athletics.

Print student's name on this line, please.

Grade: 9 10 11 12

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date: _____

Insurance Waiver

The school district of Fort Atkinson does not provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school. If you have no insurance, it is recommended that you seek coverage through an insurance agent.

We have adequate insurance to protect our son/daughter in case of an accident. If we do not feel we are adequately insured, we will seek coverage through an insurance agent.

Parent Signature

Date Signed

Please remove the entire page from the handbook and return it the Fort Atkinson High School Athletic Department.

With your cooperation we look forward to providing your child with many valuable experiences.

FORT ATKINSON SCHOOL SONG

“FORT LOYALTY”

***We're loyal to you, Fort High
We're loyal to you, Fort High***

***We back you to stand
'Gainst the best in the land***

***For we know you can stand, Fort High
U Rah Rah!***

***Pick up that ball, Fort High
We're backing you all, Fort High***

***Our team is a fame protector
On teams, for we expect a***

Victory from you, Fort High