

WHITE SALMON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

HONOR~INTEGRITY~ACHIEVEMENT~EXCELLENCE

Home of the Columbia Bruins

The Washington Interscholastic Activities Association -- the W.I.A.A. -- is a voluntary, non-profit association comprised of member Middle Level and High Schools. The purpose of the WIAA is to plan, supervise, and administer interscholastic activities and establish policies and procedures to provide for the welfare and protection of all students involved in interscholastic activities. This authority has been delegated to the Association by the Board of Directors of each member school in accordance with RCW 28A.600.200. Membership in the Association is open to any school, public or private, that is accredited and/or approved by the Washington State Board of Education and that enrolls students of grade seven or higher. School activities that are sanctioned under WIAA Rules and Regulations include forensics, music, theater/drama, dance and drill, spirit and cheer, and athletic teams.

CHARACTER TRAITS AND ETHICS

Participation in school activities is a most effective teaching and learning device. Many positive traits can be developed through participation in school activities. Some of these traits are:

1. Pride: in oneself, in the team, school, and community.
2. Self-discipline: both physical and mental training.
3. Learning the physical and mental capabilities and limitations of each individual.
4. Associations with other people: an individual learns to live with other people. Also, an individual learns to respect other people for what they have to offer the whole team and school.
5. Participation, confidence, and a winning attitude.
6. Concept of fair play: upholding the highest principles and standards demanded by the sport or activity.
7. Thorough knowledge of the activity/sport and the correct methods of executing the fundamentals of the activity/sport.
8. Self-respect: knowing that each individual has something to offer to the total

- program.
9. Middle School programs will emphasize developmental skills and training techniques to maximize a student's potential.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Any student participating in a sport must purchase an ASB card, pay the (per sport) Athletic User Fee and sign the Athletic & Activities Handbook. For all sports, these items must be taken care of prior to the athlete's first scheduled game. Any athlete who has not taken care of these items will not be allowed to participate in the scheduled games.

Also, at the beginning of each sports season all fines and fees must be paid prior to participation in the first game. This includes, but not limited to overdue books, club fees, art fees, shop fees, and uniforms.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Grades will be monitored at each grading period. In order to maintain athletic and activity eligibility the student shall have passing grades in their current courses at each grading period. This means students will not be able to participate in any competition or activity with an F in any subject. If a student receives an F at the progress grading period they will meet with the coach and the Athletic Director and be placed on probation. If at the end of the two-week probation period an F is still present the student will be placed on a weekly grade monitoring system and participation will be at the discretion of the coach and the Athletic Director.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE STANDARDS

Eligibility requirements for Scholar Athlete are set by current league standards. Athletes must receive a varsity letter award and have a 3.500 grade point average or higher posted at the end of the semester. The athlete must participate in the sport and maintain the GPA standard during the same academic semester.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FOR ATHLETIC COMPETITION

Each 24-month period prior to first participation in interscholastic athletics in a middle school, and prior to participation in a high school, a student shall undergo a medical examination and be approved for interscholastic athletic competition by a medical authority licensed to perform a physical examination, which provides clearance for continued athletic participation.

Interscholastic Insurance information must be provided prior to participation in interscholastic athletics. All participants must be covered by the School Accident Coverage Plan or a plan provided by the family.

All incoming freshmen must have a current physical prior to the first practice. Middle school physicals do not transfer to the high school.

ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

Pupils must be in attendance for at least four (4) periods a day or they are not eligible to compete or practice on that day, unless permission is granted by the principal or athletic director. Unexcused absences may result in discipline by the coach or advisor. Any absence from a regularly scheduled session without the coach/advisor's authorization, either by prearrangement or by a valid excuse from home, shall be disciplined at the discretion of the coach/advisor in charge. Students are responsible for any work they miss due to an athletic or activity trip. Arrangements should be made with teachers of those classes to be missed prior to leaving on the trip.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance along with promptness is imperative if you are to succeed. Occasionally, it may be necessary for you to be either absent or late. However, common courtesy dictates that you notify your coach/advisor in advance, or that you have a valid excuse when you return. Coaches/Advisors will specify their own set of rules concerning being tardy and absences.

EQUIPMENT

School equipment (uniforms, helmets, protective gear, travel bags, etc.) checked out by the student is his/her responsibility. He/She is expected to keep it clean and in good condition. Students will be responsible for lost, stolen or destroyed equipment assigned to them.

Proper return of all equipment will be the responsibility of the student as set by the coach/advisor of the particular sport or activity. Any equipment lost, stolen or destroyed by the participant will be paid for by that individual at the replacement cost of the lost item.

TRAVEL

The following rules will be enforced whenever it is necessary to travel to other schools for events/competition:

1. All students must travel to and from activities/athletic events in transportation provided.
2. Students will remain with their group/team and under the supervision of their coach/advisor when attending away events.
3. Misconduct of any sort while traveling to and from an away event will be dealt with according to "Discipline Procedures."

Traveling students are direct representatives of their school, community and home and should conduct themselves accordingly.

USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO

Use or possession of tobacco by activity/athletic participants is prohibited. Offenses are accumulative within the school year.

First Offense: The individual will not participate in ten percent (10%) of the entire scheduled season games and this will include post season games. The individual will attend every practice/activity during the suspension.

Second Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the sport or activity season.

Third Offense: Students are not eligible for activities or athletics for the remainder of the school year.

USE OR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS INCLUDING ALCOHOL IS PROHIBITED

First Offense: Suspension from twenty-five (25%) of athletic contests or activity involvement. Before a student who has been involved in the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol will be allowed to play in an interscholastic activity, the student must successfully complete a school-approved drug awareness program.

The student will be at every practice during the suspension and in an appointed seat during the competitions. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of the suspension will result in the immediate suspension from the sport or activity for the remainder of the season. The successful completion of the suspension will be reported in a written report from the athletic director or advisor.

Second Offense: Suspension from all sports or activities for one calendar year from the date of the second violation.

Third Offense: Permanently prohibited from participation in any WIAA member school athletic program within the district.

Students caught attending a drug or alcohol party but who were not drinking or using drugs must attend a conference with the student, parent, coach, principal / vice principal and athletic director.

VOLUNTARY TREATMENT

If any student realizes he/she has a drug, alcohol, or tobacco problem, and of his/her own volition, seeks treatment for his/her problem, they may not be subject to disciplinary action.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

The rules and regulations in this code handbook shall be in effect for a 12 month period starting with the first practice date and ending on the last day of school and apply to any violations on and off school premises. These rules and regulations apply to a single sport athlete, double sport athlete, or a triple sport athlete. There will be no off-season during the school year. Unusual situations, not covered by this code, will be handled by the athletic director.

Before any suspension provided for under these rules takes place, the student shall be verbally advised by the athletic director of the alleged violation and the student will have an opportunity to explain or justify his /her action. If, after such conference, the athletic director is satisfied that a suspension is justified, the student and parent shall be notified of the suspension in writing.

APPEAL PROCESS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Upon the imposition of penalty for infraction(s) of said tobacco, drug and alcohol rules and regulations, any aggrieved student and parent(s) or guardian shall have the right to an appeals hearing. The members of the appeals committee shall be appointed by the athletic director or principal and include:

- 1 non-coach teacher
- 2 non-sport affected coaches/advisor
- 1 building administrator
- 1 community member

If the student and parents do not make a written request for the appeal within three (3) school days of the action grieved, they will have waived their right to appeal. The appeal hearing is to be held within three (3) school days of the written request, and the student and parents shall receive a written decision regarding the appeal finding within three (3) school days of the appeal hearing.

The aggrieved party may further appeal to the superintendent of schools within three (3) school days of the appeals decision. If the student or parent does not make a written appeal to the superintendent of schools within three (3) days, they will have waived their right to the appeals conference and the appeals procedure. The superintendent shall render a decision within seven (7) school days of that hearing.

Finally, the aggrieved party may appeal the superintendent's decision to the board of directors within three (3) school days of receiving the superintendent's decision. If the student and parents do not make a written appeal to the board of directors within three (3) days of receiving the superintendent's decision, they will have waived their right to a final board appeal. The board of directors shall met within ten (10) school days of such a request and after hearing the case in detail, shall render a final decision on the case within seven (7) days of that final appeals hearing. The board's decision shall be final.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

Minimum qualifications for a varsity letter during a single season are: Football-12 quarters of all varsity games played and/or no practices missed for the full season. Track-16 points awarded at meets or district competition. Baseball and Softball-1/2 of all varsity innings played. Boy's and Girl's Basketball-1/4 of all varsity quarters played. Boy's and Girl's Soccer-1/2 of all varsity halves played. Volleyball-1/3 of all varsity games played and must be a varsity team member. Tennis-1/2 of all varsity matches played. An athlete must be a member in good standing at the close of a sport season to be eligible for any award that may be given at the coach's discretion.

SAFETY AND SPORTSMANSHIP

Dress and appearance must be neat and clean and must not present health or safety problems or cause disruption. The head coach will determine hair length for his or her sport in relation to health and safety problems. Dress on the day of a scheduled event or contest will be at the discretion of the coach or advisor in charge.

Every student who participates in a sport or activity sponsored by White Salmon Schools is expected to practice good citizenship at home, in school, and community. The students are an ambassador of White Salmon Schools and should conduct themselves accordingly.

All students are expected to accept the above code in the spirit it is written and abide by it for the entire year. This must occur if a student wishes to excel and also be loyal to himself, his team, his school, coaches, and advisors.

Dear Parent:

Because of the nature of team competition or activity involvement, it is essential that the coach or advisor have the authority, not only to make decisions involving the manner in which a game will be played, but also with respect to individual conduct and discipline.

This handbook which has been issued to your son/daughter contains a procedure for the discipline and suspension of students under specified conditions. Under this procedure, a coach or advisor has the authority to discipline a student as outlined, and you the parent are made aware of procedures for actions that you may take for the appeals process.

It is our sincere desire that we will not encounter such problems this school year, but it is often the most exceptional situations with which we must be most concerned.

Unless you inform us to the contrary, we will assume that you have reviewed the student Athletic & Activities Handbook, and that you agree with the procedures set forth therein and in this letter.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Dennis, Principal

Howard Kreps, Athletic Director

* Please sign and return the bottom portion to the Columbia High School Office

I have reviewed the Athletic & Activities Handbook and understand that my son/daughter must abide by these rules and regulations during his/her participation in sports and extracurricular activities at Columbia High School.

_____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

Student's Signature

Home Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number