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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to give all students participating in athletic programs and all other interested persons a guide to the operation of the interscholastic athletic program of the Madeira City Schools District. Specific rules, regulations, policies and procedures will be explained by the coaches of the various teams/activities within the district's athletic program. All student athletes will be expected to adhere not only to the specific rules, regulations, policies and procedures, but also to those special rules set forth for each sport.

All student athletes and cheerleaders are also expected to follow the student "Code of Conduct" as outlined in the Student and Parent Handbook, which was revised in August 2005.

It must be understood by all students and their parents/legal guardians that a condition to participating in the Madeira City School District athletic program is a commitment to follow the rules, regulations, policies and procedures established by the district for the implementation of its athletic program. It must also be understood that the students who violate these rules, regulations, policies, and procedures shall face disciplinary action.

Athletic Department Contact Information:

Athletic Director: Joe Kimling

Secretary: Cyndi Underwood

Direct Line: (513) 587-0010

Fax Line: (513) 985-6089

Websites: www.madeiracityschools.org

(Click on Athletics)

www.highschoolsports.net

www.chlsports.com

MISSION STATEMENT

In partnership with parents and community, Madeira City Schools provides and promotes a positive learning environment that challenges each learner to achieve full academic potential for excellence and be a responsible, educated, and caring individual now and in the future.



SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities, which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics is an extension of the classroom promoting character, hard work, and discipline while helping to develop a person both body and mind. Athletics will provide a foundation for growth, goal setting, competitiveness, cooperation, teamwork, and adjustments to adversity and respect.

ATHLETIC FORMS REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION

Before a student may participate in any sport, including conditioning, tryouts, and practices, he/she must provide the following information to the athletic office.

1. The Ohio High School Athletic Association health questionnaire and physical examination form with student, parent and physician signature.
2. Emergency medical form.
3. Authorization for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics.
4. Payment of all fees associated with participation.
5. Additional forms by individual sport.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OHSAA Guidelines for Student Athletic Eligibility

HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

According to O.H.S.A.A. Bylaw 4-4-1. During the preceding grade period, a student must have received a passing grade in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses or the equivalent which count toward graduation. Madeira Student Athletes are also required to have a 1.0 grade point average for the preceding grading period to be eligible. Grades earned during the 4th quarter determine eligibility for the 1st quarter of the next school year.

In accordance with OHSAA Bylaw 4-4-3. A student enrolled in the first grading period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed 75% of those subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

According to O.H.S.A.A. Bylaw 4-4-4. A student enrolling in the 7th grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of the previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grades 7 or 8 must have received passing grades during the preceding grade period in 6 of 8 classes.

MADEIRA ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Extracurricular activities are secondary to academics in importance, and are a privilege for those students who take part in them. Therefore, the following guidelines will be used to determine a student's extracurricular eligibility.

Eligibility will be reviewed weekly during the sport seasons.

1. Eligibility is based on all subjects taken by a student.
2. Eligibility is a cumulative average, from the beginning of a grading period through the end of each week being checked.
3. A student will be given a "warning" the first time he/she receives a cumulative "F" or incomplete during a given grading period. A student on "warning" may still practice and compete.
4. At anytime during the grade period a student receiving a second cumulative "F" or incomplete in any class will become ineligible for athletic competition for a period of seven days,
5. Eligibility reports will be turned in by all teachers to the Athletic Director by 3:30 p.m. each Friday, with the results reported to the respective coaches/sponsors the following Monday.

ATHLETIC VIOLATIONS

Use, sale, or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs is prohibited. If a student athlete is observed indulging in any of the above, the athlete has violated a training rule. Any criminal arrest resulting in a conviction above and beyond a simple traffic violation will be considered a violation of training rules, and subject to the appropriate suspensions. The individual observing the violation shall report to the coach of the sport in which the athlete is a participant or a candidate. The coach shall report the incident to the athletic director and shall file a written report of the incident. The athletic director shall investigate the incident and make a recommendation to the

principal or his designee. Violation of training rules could lead to suspension, expulsion or removal from the athletic team in accordance with ORC 3313.66

Any athlete leaving/quitting a team after the first scheduled competition without the coach's release will be subject to a 20% suspension of the athletes next sports season.

As representatives of the Madeira City Schools, athletes are expected to conduct themselves, in an exemplary manner at all times. This standard applies to both school and community activities.

It is a privilege to compete in athletics and our athletes must subscribe to certain rules and regulations. Therefore, the following rules of conduct are in effect for student/athletes weather they are "in season" or not. Student athletes will be under the direction of this document from the first day of participation or on the first day of school (which ever comes first) through schools end.

Athletic Code of Conduct: Any behavior deemed by the coaching staff and/or athletic department as conduct detrimental to the team may be subject to a suspension not to exceed 2 dates of competition.

FIRST OFFENSE: The athlete will be suspended for 30% of the scheduled dates of competitions or performances. Any uncompleted suspension and/or probationary period will be carried over to the next participating activity. The athlete may or may not be required to practice during his/her suspension. An appeal would be considered if the athlete goes for a drug/alcohol assessment and the results of the assessment are made available to the appeals committee.

SECOND OFFENSE: The athlete will be suspended from practices, contests and performances for all sports until further notice. An appeal would be considered if the athlete goes for a drug/alcohol assessment and the results of the assessment are made available to the appeals committee.

SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: The athlete will be suspended from practices, contests and performances for all sports until further notice. An appeal would be considered if the athlete goes for a drug/alcohol assessment and the results of the assessment are made available to the appeals committee.

The appeals committee will be made up of:

Athletic Director

Varsity level coach (not the current coach for the athlete)

Athlete's Guidance Counselor

Principal or Assistant Principal

Drug Education Coordinator

The athlete shall be suspended until the appeal has been heard and a decision has been made. The parent/guardian and athlete must be present at the appeal hearing.

Self disclosure: in the event that a student -athlete violates one of the training rules listed and voluntarily notifies the athletic director or coach (in season) of that violation prior to an investigation or knowledge by school officials, the first offense restrictions may be reduced. This provides the student athlete with the opportunity to correct a one-time mistake. The self-disclosure can only be used once and would still serve as a first offense. Any further violation of training rules would result in a second offense restriction.

*Any violation that falls under the jurisdiction of the student disciplinary code found in the student handbook will take precedent over the athletic handbook.

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 harm and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

CONSEQUENCES FOR HAZING: Incidents of hazing will be handled on an individual basis; consequences may range from game(s) suspension to the suspension from further participation in the athletic program.

ATTENDANCE

It is the policy of the Madeira City School district that an athlete must attend at least one-half of a school day to practice or compete in an athletic event that day or evening. Exceptions to this rule may be made by the principal or designee. Time spent attending a school-sponsored

activity will count toward satisfying this requirement (i.e. Latin convention, band competition, Metropolitan Youth Roundtable).

VACATION POLICY

In the event an absence due to a family vacation is unavoidable, the athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents while on vacation.
2. Contact the coach prior to vacation.
3. Be willing to assume the consequences and/or penalties related to their status on the squad as starter, playing time, etc.

MULTIPLE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Athletic Department realizes that a school system with a small student population and a full compliment of extra-curricular activities must at times share participants. Recognizing that each student will have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities.

The following guidelines must be met by both student and sponsor/coach before multiple participation in contest or practice can take place:

1. Activity/team rules for each activity must be signed by both the student and parents. A sport of choice must be declared. This will be used to help avoid conflicts in scheduling.
2. The student and participating sponsors/coaches must meet together and coordinate a written schedule of practices and competitions. A copy of the schedule is to be given to the Athletic Director.
3. When an athlete participates in two sporting events in one day, the athlete must complete the first event of the day before leaving to attend a second event. Coaches must be notified in advance of this type situation by the athlete. Penalties will occur if this standard is not followed.

4. When an athlete is attempting to participate on two athletic teams during the same season and one of the teams requires a tryout, "cuts" as part of its team selections, a student's availability for practices, games and team events may be considered for team selection. This may also be used as criteria in determining whether or not it is in the best interest of the student athlete to participate in multiple sports. When conflicts do arise, the sponsors/coaches and the Athletic Director will attempt to resolve the conflict in the best interest of the teams involved. If a solution cannot be found, then the principal will have to make the decision.

PARENT REGISTERING A CONCERN

Madeira City Schools Athletic Department believes most concerns can be resolved between the parent and coach. In addition, we believe the coach deserves the courtesy of attempting to resolve the problem first. However, Madeira also believes a parent has the right to pursue a concern beyond the coach if proper procedure is followed.

1. Contact the Head Coach, express your concern and attempt to develop a resolution to the concern. Please do not register your concern immediately before, during, or immediately after a game or contest. Give yourself and the coach/sponsor time to reflect on the situation and then register your concern if needed. This will allow both parent and coach a better opportunity to communicate and resolve the concern. If the conflict cannot be resolved, you have the right to pursue the issue further.
2. Contact the Athletic Director to express your concern and seek a resolution to the problem. If you are still not satisfied, you have the right to pursue the issue further.
3. Contact the respective building Principal to express your concern and seek a resolution to the problem. If at this point the issue is not resolved, you have the right to contact the Superintendent.

STANDARDS FOR ALL ATHLETIC AWARDS

Listed below are specific minimum standards upon which athletic award letters will be awarded to 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade athletes in the Madeira City Schools District. The head coach may establish additional requirements for earning an athletic award letter. These requirements will be discussed with the athlete prior to the start of the first scheduled contest. Any athlete, who quits, resigns or is dismissed from a team before the season has ended, forfeits all rights to earn a letter in that sport.

BASEBALL: Play in 1/2 of the total innings of all varsity games.

BASKETBALL: Play in 1/2 of the total quarters of all varsity games.

CROSS COUNTRY: Must accomplish one of the following:

1. Be in the top 7 runners, or beat 1/3 of the opposition in half the meets.
2. Be on the "running team" for the league meet or sectional meet.

FOOTBALL: Play in 1/2 of the total quarters of all varsity games.

GOLF: Play in 1/2 of the scheduled matches or play in 2 major tournaments.

SOCCER: Play in 1/2 of the total periods of all varsity games.

SOFTBALL: Play in 1/2 of the total innings of all varsity games.

TENNIS: Play in 1/2 of the scheduled matches.

TRACK/SWIMMING: Must accomplish one of the following:

1. Score 15 varsity points (can be adjusted if meets are cancelled).
2. Score points at league meet or sectional meet.
3. Set a school record.
4. Set an event standard in a multi-team meet.

VOLLEYBALL: Play in 1/2 of the scheduled matches.

WRESTLING: Wrestle in 1/2 of the scheduled matches.

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PREVIOUS CRITERIA:

The coach shall have the opportunity to make exceptions from the normal standards when special conditions justify the award. All exceptions to the minimum standards must have the approval of the athletic director.

C.H.L. SCHOLAR ATHLETE: The athlete must earn a varsity award and have a 3.25 G.P.A. during that season.

C.H.L. SENIOR SCHOLAR: The athlete must earn a varsity award each year and have a 3.5 G.P.A. over seven semesters

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

VARSIITY AWARDS

All high school athletes, cheerleaders, wrestlerettes, and managers shall receive a certificate for participation on all athletic teams.

1ST YEAR AWARD: 1st year Varsity "M" only once and an individual sport pin to signify each sport where the award was earned thereafter.

2ND YEAR AWARD: Individual sport pin to signify each sport

3RD YEAR AWARD: A plaque in each sport earned.

4TH YEAR AWARD: A plaque in each sport earned

NUMERALS: Earned only once for first time participation.

JUNIOR VARSITY, FRESHMAN, AND MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS

All JV, Freshman, and Middle School athletes, cheerleaders, wrestlerettes, and managers shall receive a certificate for participation on all athletic teams.

JV AWARD: JV "M" only once. Numerals will be awarded only once for first time participation.

FRESHMAN AWARD: Numerals only once.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARD: MS "M" only once.

ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS

Training rules for each specific sport shall be developed by the coach, recommended by the athletic director and approved by the principal. Such rules shall be formally issued to each athlete. Activity/Team rules, signed by both the athlete and parent/guardian, must be returned to the head coach/sponsor before the student is allowed to practice or compete.

Each coach may impose reasonable punishment on the athletes violating training rules. If the violation and the punishment result in suspension, expulsion or removal, the process outlined in ORC 3313.66 shall be enforced.

OHSAA (Ohio High School Athletic Association)

OHSAA bylaws addressing physical exams are the same for students in grades 7-8 and grades 9-12.

The bylaws state, "athletic participation forms for participants shall be signed by a physician, the participant and by a parent or guardian and must be on file with the principal before any candidate for a team may participate in a practice. These forms necessitate the physician's certification of the individual's physical fitness no less than once each year."

Examination cards may be signed by a chiropractor or physician. If the exam is given by a nurse practitioner, it, too, must be signed by a physician. The examination is valid for participation during the current school year. All physical examination cards should be completed properly and turned into the Athletic Director's office prior to participating in practice, tryouts, or competition.

Equipment

All school issued equipment must be returned to the coach following the season. If equipment is not returned, any and all awards earned by an athlete will be withheld until such equipment is returned or other arrangements can be made. Restitution can be made through the student fee account in the Main Office.

START DATE FOR HIGH SCHOOL PRACTICE

| | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Baseball | 03/09 | 03/08 |
| Basketball – B | 11/10 | 11/09 |
| Basketball – G | 11/03 | 11/02 |
| Cross Country | 08/04 | 08/10 |
| Football | 07/31 | 08/06 |
| Golf | 08/04 | 08/10 |
| Soccer – B & G | 08/04 | 08/10 |
| Fast-Pitch Softball | 03/09 | 03/08 |
| Swimming | 11/07 | 11/06 |
| Tennis – B | 03/09 | 03/08 |
| Tennis – G | 08/04 | 08/10 |
| Track & Field | 03/09 | 03/08 |
| Volleyball | 08/04 | 08/10 |
| Wrestling | 11/14 | 11/13 |

NCAA ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS

Please go to www.ncaa.org for regulations and requirements

Head Coaches

Baseball - Jack Kuzniczci

Basketball (Boys) - Jim Reynolds

Basketball (Girls) - Dave Schlensker

Cheerleading - Vicki Mitchell

Cross Country - Natalie McEwan

Golf - Mike Hopping

Football – Tony Arcuri

Soccer (Boys) - Jon Unger

Soccer (Girls) - Dan Brady

Softball - Dave Schlensker

Swimming - Megan Feichtner

Tennis - Lynda & Arnold Maslow

Track - Natalie McEwan

Volleyball – Bobby Thompson

Wrestling - Jason Foley