

SECTION B - POLICIES

Team Membership

The step from a recreation team to an interscholastic team is indeed a big one. Whereas the emphasis in recreation is participation, playing time is earned, not guaranteed, in interscholastic sports. Student-athletes earn playing time in practice by displaying a good work ethic, sportsmanship, skill development, and the ability to work as a team player. Not adhering to state, county, school, and team rules will definitely affect playing time.

The coach of each team is responsible for the determination of squad membership. Once athletes become a member of a team, they become ineligible to participate in another school-sponsored sport during that season. Juniors and seniors are not eligible for junior varsity competition in any sport. Team members are expected to attend all practices and games. Practice is held daily. The athletic week runs from Monday through Saturday, including evenings.

Student-athletes are issued equipment and uniforms at the beginning of the season. The student is financially responsible for the replacement cost of athletic equipment and uniforms which are not returned within ten days after the close of a given season.

Students, while participating on a school team, are permitted to participate in the same sport or other sports outside of school during a sport season. However, the outside participation shall not conflict with the practices or contests scheduled by the school, including district, regional, and state championship play.

Transportation

All teams must travel in bonded carriers to and from all athletic events. All team members must travel as a group to and from all athletic contests. If approved by the local school principal in advance, a team member may be released to the custody of a parent or legal guardian at the conclusion of an away contest. Approval must be requested in written form prior to the specified event and signed by the student-athlete's parent or legal guardian. The principal or principal's designee shall sign all authorized requests. Any other exceptions to this mode of travel must be approved, in advance, by the local school principal. Parents should not expect coaches to provide transportation for team members.

Out-of-Season Practice

Student-athletes who have previously participated as varsity or junior varsity team members may not participate as players in any intramural or school-sponsored programs in the same sport.

All-Star Events

By State rule 13A.06.03, the MPSSAA stipulates that individual students may participate in one All-Star game per sport, upon completion of their eligibility in the sport in which this participation occurs.

Amateur Status

Student-athletes lose amateur status by using athletic skill as players for financial gain or by competing under an assumed name. Students shall also lose amateur status in a particular sport if they sign a professional contract in that sport. Students who have ceased to be amateurs in a particular sport may not represent a school in interscholastic athletics in that sport.

Awards

In order to qualify for post-season awards, the student-athlete must complete the season in good standing and fulfill all team-related obligations. Each school is responsible for developing its own policy for achievement and distribution of athletic awards.

SECTION C - ADDITIONAL POLICIES

Schools and coaches may establish additional rules and requirements with the approval of the athletic director and principal.

Any further questions or concerns should be addressed to the coach or athletic director.