

502: Athletic Policy

I. Purpose:

- a. The mission of athletics is to provide an enjoyable educational experience for students that supports the development of the student's self-esteem, citizenship, responsibility, and skills in cooperative and leadership behaviors are positive outcomes of the PCA athletics program. These programs should be enjoyable, vigorous, safe, and should occur in a positive climate with appropriate adult supervision and support.

II. Definitions:

- a. Athletes: Students participating in extra-curricular activities that involve athletic competition such as, but not limited to, football, baseball, soccer, cheerleading, basketball, softball, and lacrosse.

III. Policy Statement:

- a. The program goals are threefold:
 - i. To provide a fun sport for the students
 - ii. To learn the basic skills of that particular sport
 - iii. To develop cooperation, sportsmanship, leadership, and build self-esteem.
- b. In order to provide this experience for our students, a sixty-five (\$65) dollar athletic fee is required for each sport, excluding competition cheer. Competition cheer has a one hundred (\$100) dollar athletic fee. This fee will assist in paying for transportation, uniforms, official fees, etc.
- c. Alcohol and Other Drugs (AODA) Policy:
 - i. Any participant who is judged to be in possession of and/or using alcohol or other drugs, which includes tobacco products and commercial products used for something other than their intended use, will be dropped from that activity and/or not allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.
- d. Physical Exams
 - i. All students are required to have a new DIAA health physical, signed by a certified physician and parent/guardian, on file at school before participation in any athletic sport. The physical must be administered on or after April 1st to be used for the following school year. The only acceptable form is the DIAA health form. **No other physical form will be**

accepted.

- ii. For a copy of the DIAA form, please see the link on the PCA athletic webpage. Physicals may be emailed, faxed, or dropped off at the main office.

e. Team Selection:

- i. Athletics are meant to be a participatory activity in which as many students as possible are allowed to participate. However, it is recognized that there is a limit with regards to space and manageability which may force coaches of some activities to limit the number of students allowed to participate.
- ii. The size of each sports team will be determined by the following criteria:
 1. All students attend a minimum of three consecutive practices/tryouts in order to be evaluated.
 2. Coaches evaluate students and make roster selections according to the following criteria (in no particular order):
 - a. Ability
 - b. Effort/Attitude
 - c. School behavior
 - d. Commitment to AODA contract
 - e. Classroom work completion
 - f. Classroom academic progress
 - g. Grade level –
 - i. In the case of all else being equal, an emphasis will be placed on keeping the student from the highest-grade level.
 3. Note: These expectations are expected to be met throughout the school year, not JUST during the particular season in question as specified in the behavior contract which is signed at the beginning of the year. Failure to comply is grounds for exclusion from the team.

f. Student Eligibility:

- i. Student Records:
 1. Must be a current PCA student who meets the academic requirements.
 2. DIAA physical must be current (on or after April 1st).
 3. Emergency Medical Card
 4. Signed Athletic agreement
- ii. Unexcused absences:

1. Any participant will be allowed no more than 2 unexcused absences from practice. If there are more than 2 unexcused practices or games the student will be dropped from that particular sport.
2. Unexcused absences include the following:
 - a. A person receiving a detention/suspension will be ineligible for extra-curricular activities the day of the detention/suspension. This is considered an unexcused absence.
 - b. If a student is in school and does not come to practice without notifying his/her coach/teacher beforehand regarding the reason for the absences, it will be considered an unexcused absence.
 - c. If a team member is asked to leave a practice or game for unacceptable behavior (as described in the PCA handbook), it will be considered an unexcused absence.

iii. Eligibility:

1. A student's academic and behavioral progress will be determined the second Monday of each month. The athletic director/coach will supply a list of team members to all appropriate teachers the week prior to each check-in.
2. Students must maintain a "C" average in three of the four core classes (i.e., ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science) in order to tryout in school athletics.
3. A student will be deemed ineligible if the following criteria is met:
 - a. They are receiving a "D" or below in two or more of their core classes (i.e., ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science).
 - b. They have incompletes in one or more classes.
 - c. They have demonstrated poor behavior in one or more classes as defined by the PCA Student Handbook.
4. A student athlete that becomes ineligible to play at the monthly check-in may become re-eligible to participate in games and practice once a new grade of a (C) is earned.
5. It is the ineligible athlete's responsibility to provide written documentation from that teacher to the coach one day before the game to become eligible to play.

6. A behavioral infraction of Level 2 resulting in a behavioral referral will render the student ineligible for one game. This shall count as an unexcused absence as outlined above.
7. A behavior infraction of Level 3 or higher resulting in a behavior referral will render the student ineligible for the rest of the season.
8. Any general school discipline directed from PCA administration will take precedence over the extra-curricular policies.
9. In the event a player becomes ineligible to play they are still to attend all practices, but not actively participate in the practice. If an athlete does not attend it will count as an unexcused absent.

g. Appeals:

i. If an athlete would like to appeal a decision he/she must:

1. Contact the Athletic Director and the Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator immediately in order to discuss the situation and present the reasons for the appeal. Appeals must be made in writing within five working days of the initial decision.
2. If the Athletic Director's and the Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator decision stands, a parent may appeal the decision to the Head of School. A meeting will be set up with the athletic director, the parent, a member of administration, and the coach in order to discuss the situation and reach a resolution (if necessary).
3. Note that while an appeal is in motion, the original decision will be in effect.
4. The Head of School will only hear appeals when the policy has been violated.

h. Out of Season Participation/Coaching:

- i. Students are free to participate in whichever off-season activities they choose. There is a DIAA conference rule against a school coach coaching a student while that sport is not in season if that student may be on that coach's team during the upcoming season.
- ii. Based on the DIAA Regulations, all non-season activities are voluntary and cannot be held accountable for attendance participation.

IV. Responsibility:

- i. PCA coaches and volunteers will be held to the same professional standards as all other staff. This includes acting in accordance with all applicable PCA policies and procedures.
- ii. Parents and community are responsible for adhering to the spectator code of conduct located on the DIAA requirements link.
- iii. Students are responsible for adhering to this policy the student code of conduct and all applicable DIAA regulations.

V. Related Policies:

- a. [Bullying Policy](#)
- b. [Social Media Policy](#)
- c. [Controlled Substance Policy](#)
- d. [Student Code of Conduct](#)

VI. Related Procedures and Documents:

- a. [DIAA Requirements](#)
- b. [DIAA Physical Form](#)
- c. Coaches Handbook

Approval and Revision Dates:

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