

Interscholastic Athletics

Coach's Duties

In accordance with district policy and the coach's job description, the coach has the duty to:

Instruct Participants

The coach should employ the latest methods or proper instruction using sound progression in presenting motor skills. If an injury occurs while using an improper instructional method, negligence may be present.

Warn Participants

The coach should inform all athletes and their parents of the inherent risks involved in participation in the particular sport, including the very small risk of infection with a blood-borne pathogen. The coach must describe, using a variety of methods, the catastrophic and common non-catastrophic injuries unique to the sport.

Supervise Participants

The daily plan should show how the coach plans to conduct general supervision of the sport, and how he/she will supervise specific drills and other components of the daily practice. Adequacy of supervision should be reviewed in terms of quality and quantity. Factors to consider include, but are not limited to: the age of the students, the size of the students, the equipment involved, the maturity level of the students, the first aid equipment and training available, the appropriate certification of supervisors where required, and the safety training of the personnel involved.

Provide Safe Equipment And Facilities

Equipment should be properly fitted and maintained. Athletes should be instructed on how to conduct a daily inspection. Facilities should be free of hazards and inspected regularly.

Maintain Records Of Injuries

A report should be completed for each accident. Injury reports should be maintained for a period of five years after the student's 21st birthday.

Evaluate Fitness Of Participants

The coach has a duty to evaluate the physical fitness, the medical condition, and the skill level of athletes and prescribe physical activities consistent with the athlete's abilities. Failure to prescribe appropriate activities may be grounds for negligence, should an injury occur involving fatigue or lack of skill.

Provide Equal Protection And Due Process

While participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, a participant who allegedly violates the conduct code must be afforded the opportunity of a fair hearing.

Transport Athletes Safely

A coach has a duty to see that athletes are safely transported to and from contests and to and from practices if practices are held at sites other than the immediate school grounds.

Group Participants

The coach has the duty to employ a recognized system of grouping for participants in a particular sport that will avoid unequal and unsafe participation, based upon skill level, age, maturity, sex, size and expeForesee Danger

A coach should be able to reasonably anticipate foreseeable dangers that may occur if the activity is continued in a facility, or with equipment, or in a situation, and take precautions protecting the children in his/her custody from such dangers.

Protect From Loss

A participant is required to present evidence that he/she is covered by an accident policy. A blanket catastrophic (“no fault”) insurance provides coverage for serious injuries.

The duties listed above are not meant to be comprehensive. In carrying out the duties of the assignment a staff member is expected to act as a reasonable professional would have acted under similar circumstances. A staff member who supervises a sports activity is expected to know the intricacies of the activity that he/she is leading.

Summer Sports Activities/Clinics

Rules governing out-of-school and/or out-of-season student sports participation are as follows:

- A. A practice is defined as a teaching phase of a sport to any present, past or future squad member while a student in grade 7-12 during the school year or during the summer. The school may not sponsor, promote or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests during the school year or summer.

A school staff member who sponsors, promotes or directs such activities during the summer vacation shall clearly indicate that he/she is operating independent of the school district. As such, the school district shall be free of liability associated with the activity.

- B. Students shall be advised that participation in a commercial summer camp or clinic or other similar type of activity shall not begin until the conclusion of the final WIAA state tournament of the school year. Participants in a fall school sports program may not attend any summer camp/clinic in that sport after August 1 until the first fall sports turnout. The school should announce by school bulletin that summer sports camp/clinic is neither endorsed nor sponsored by the district.
- C. A coach (contracted or volunteer) may not sponsor, promote, coach or direct activities which resemble out-of-season practices or contests in the sport they coach to any of their squad members or future squad members (grades 7-12) until after the school year's final WIAA state tournament.
- D. The use of the school bulletin board, public address system or school newspaper for promotional purposes to announce sports clinics/camps shall fall within the same guidelines as applied to other commercial endeavors.
- E. School facilities to be used for summer activity and/or sports camps not supported by district coaches within the acceptable period as outlined by the WIAA may be rented consistent with the rates, rules and regulations applicable for other commercial uses.

A user shall hold the district free and without harm from any loss or damage, liability or expense that may arise during or be caused in any way such use of school facilities. Authorization for use of school facilities shall not be considered as endorsement of or approval of the activity group or organization nor for the purposes it represents.ATHLETIC CODE

The opportunity to participate in the interscholastic athletic program is a privilege granted to all students of the district. Participants in this voluntary program are expected to conform to specific conduct standards established by the principals and athletic coaches.

A student who is found by a certificated staff member of the student's school to be in violation of any rules is subject to removal from the team. Provision is made for a student who has allegedly violated one or more of the conduct rules to appeal a disciplinary action as specified in this code.

The following rules shall be applicable for a sports season:

Use And/Or Possession Of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Marijuana

An athlete who is found to have consumed, be in possession of, or be in attendance of a location in which alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana products is being illegally consumed may be removed from participation for 2-4 games (first offense). If the student violates the rule a second time while attending Sequim School District, he/she will be suspended from all athletics for one calendar year .

Use And/Or Possession Of Illegal Chemical Substances Or Opiates

An athlete who is found to be in possession of one or more of the above will be removed from participation for the balance of the sports season or thirty (30) calendar days, whichever is longer.

Physical Appearance

An athlete shall maintain the dress and grooming standards of the team. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offenses: removal from the activity for five (5) school days.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

An athlete shall exhibit appropriate conduct in practices and/or contests. First offense: verbal warning. Repeated offense: removal from activity for five (5) school days.

Attendance At School

Any student participating in school-sponsored activities shall attend all classes in order to practice/participate that day. The athletic director, principal, or assistant principal may approve exceptions to this requirement.

Absence From Practice

An athlete is expected to be in attendance at all team practices unless excused for illness or by prior approval. It is the responsibility of the coach to develop team policies and consequences for both excused and unexcused absences.

Violation Of Law On School Grounds

When a student is found guilty of an offense committed while on school grounds or at a school activity, the corrective action will depend upon the nature of the violation.

Repeated Offenses

If a student repeatedly violates one of the above rules, he/she may be removed from the team for the remainder of the sports season.

APPEAL PROCESS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When infractions occur within the athletic program, the following process will be followed:

- A. A student or parent/guardian who believes that an athletic/activities suspension has been handed down unjustly shall provide a written request for a hearing before a Grievance Committee within five (5) school days of the date that the athlete/parent was notified of the penalty.
- B. The athletic director shall convene a grievance committee consisting of five (5) members. Members must include at least one (1) neutral coach, one (1) community member and one (1) administrator, who shall serve as the committee chair and facilitate the meeting.
- C. The Grievance Committee shall strive to convene within three (3) school days of the day the athletic director receives the request, based on availability of members.
- D. The athletic director will outline the details of the suspension but will not be a member of the committee.
- E. The athlete and/or parent/guardian shall have an opportunity to outline the basis of their grievance.
- F. The Grievance Committee shall decide to uphold, appeal or modify the penalty. The committee chair shall notify the athlete and parent/guardian of the committee's decision within three (3) school days of the hearing.
- G. The discipline action shall continue, notwithstanding the implementation of the grievance procedure set forth in this section unless the principal or his or her designee elects to postpone such action. .
- H. To appeal the Grievance Committee's decision, the aggrieved party may submit a written grievance with the School District Superintendent within two (2) school days of the decision rendered by the Grievance Committee. The School District Superintendent, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision within ten (10) school days of the hearing.
- I. To appeal the Superintendent's decision, the student, parent or guardian, upon two (2) school days prior notice, shall have the right to present a written and/or oral grievance to the board of directors during the board's next regular meeting. The board shall notify the student, parent or guardian of its response to the grievance within (10) school days after the date of the hearing. The decision shall be final.

ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES TITLE IX EVALUATION

To fulfill the district's Policy 3210 of providing equal educational opportunity in its educational program, including its athletic program, the Title IX officer, in cooperation with the district's athletic director, shall be responsible for providing ongoing monitoring to assure that the district's athletic program effectively accommodates the athletic interests and abilities of both sexes. The Title IX officer and/or the athletic director shall annually report to the superintendent on or before July 1 regarding the participation opportunities the athletic program provides in interscholastic sports for female and male students and whether the program (1) provides interscholastic participation opportunities for male and female students in numbers substantially proportionate to their respective enrollments; (2) shows a history and continuing practice of expanding such opportunities that responds meaningfully to the developing interest and abilities of female students; or (3) fully and effectively accommodates the

interests and abilities of female students. If the district's program does not meet at least one of those compliance tests, then the Title IX officer shall recommend measures to ensure the district's program will be brought into compliance.

In addition, if at any time during a school year, it appears that the district's athletic program is not or will not be able to satisfy one of these compliance tests, then the Title IX officer shall report that information to the superintendent along with a proposal for corrective action.

In conducting this ongoing review process, the Title IX officer shall consider the following information:

1. Student interest surveys, completed every other year.
2. Any requests received pursuant to Procedure 2151.
3. Comparison of district programs to those offered in neighboring school districts and in the applicable sports league(s).
4. Current number and sex of participants in the programs.
5. The results of annual building program evaluations under Procedure 2150.
6. Any other relevant information regarding the expressed interests and abilities of students.

REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS AND MODIFICATIONS TO ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Students, parents, staff members, and volunteers may request the addition of interscholastic sports and other modifications to the athletic activities program. Requests for the addition or modification shall include, but not be limited to, the elevation of clubs or intramural teams or sports to interscholastic competition or increasing the number of or size of teams currently engaged in interscholastic play.

Requests for additions or modifications may be made to the district athletic director or district Title IX officer. The person making the request should provide, if available, the following information in the format provided on the attached form #2151F2.

1. The names and number of students who are interested in participating.
2. The names and telephone numbers of any persons who are interested in providing compensated or volunteer coaching services.
3. The extent of any existing interscholastic competition in the sport.
4. The sports season for which the activity is proposed.
5. The type of equipment, uniforms, and facilities necessary to provide the activity and an estimate of costs involved.
6. Any other information that may assist in evaluating the request.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving a request, the district's athletic director and/or Title IX officer shall respond in writing to the requesting party. The response may grant the request, deny the request, or advise that the request will be reviewed further for possible adoption pending an annual review of the district's activities program pursuant to district procedure 2150P. If the request is subject to further review, the district's response shall provide a date a final response will be provided, which shall be no later than August 1 of the school year in which the request was received.

Notice of this procedure shall be provided to students/parents in the Students Handbook, which is distributed to the students annually.