

INSTRUCTION

Interscholastic Athletics

The board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience to all students of the district and to the community. The program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contests, games or events, or sports exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this district when such events occur between separate schools within this district or with any schools outside this district. The board expects that:

- A. All interscholastic activities and events shall be in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). The schools of the district shall not participate in any out-of-season athletics that are not sanctioned by the WIAA. The district shall not be responsible or liable for nonschool-sponsored programs or for programs that are organized, promoted or participated in by staff members without school approval. The district shall not be responsible for or control and incur liability for summer and/or out-of-season activities unless specifically sponsored by the school district. The superintendent shall establish rules defining the circumstances under which school facilities may be used and under which announcements of summer sports leagues and/or clinics may be channeled to students.
- B. An athletic coach must be properly trained and qualified for an assignment as described in the coach's job description.
- C. Safety guidelines associated with a coaching assignment will be distributed to each coach.
- D. In-service training opportunities will be afforded each coach so that he or she is trained to attend to the health care needs of participants. Prior to a sports season, the coach will prepare a plan for handling minor injuries and medical emergencies at practice sessions and games (home and away).
- E. Participants will be issued equipment that has been properly maintained, fitted and which is free from defect.
- F. All facilities and equipment utilized in the interscholastic athletic program, whether or not the property of the district, shall be inspected and approved for use on a regular basis by any individual adequately trained or with knowledge of the equipment.
- G. Nonprescribed medications, including such items as analgesic balms, vitamins and salt tablets, must be approved by the athletic director before they may be available for use by coaches and/or athletic trainers. After athletic training medications have been approved, the coach and/or trainer must secure authorization from the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the student's doctor before the medications may be used during the athletic season. If such release is not on file, the nonprescribed medications may not be used. This provision does not preclude the coach and/or trainer from using approved first aid items.

A sign will be posted that warns students that eligibility to participate may be denied if anabolic steroids are used solely for the purpose of enhancing athletic ability.

- H. The board recognizes that certain risks are associated with participation in interscholastic sports. While the district will strive to prevent injuries and accidents to students, each participant and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) will be required to sign a statement which indicates that the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the student acknowledge the risks of injuries resulting from such participation and give assurance that the student will follow the instructions of the coach.
- I. Each participant shall be required to furnish evidence of physical fitness prior to becoming a member of an interscholastic team. A written report shall be completed when a student is injured while participating in a school-supervised activity. A participant shall be free of injury and shall have fully recovered from illness before participating in any activity.
- J. Each student participating in interscholastic athletic activities is required to have or obtain medical insurance for expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained while participating in the extracurricular activity. Students shall provide evidence of coverage with a minimum limit of \$25,000 in medical expenses or shall obtain such coverage through the insurance plan offered to all students participating in activities in the district. No student will be denied the ability to participate solely because the student's family, by reason of low income, is unable to pay the entire amount of the premium for such insurance. The superintendent or his or her designee may approve partial or full waiver of premiums to permit all students to obtain the required medical insurance.
- K. All coaches must hold and maintain a current first aid card (in addition, a current CPR card is recommended) or be enrolled in a course to earn a card, which must be completed and passed within the current school year, or successfully complete or be enrolled in and successfully complete an equivalent sports medicine course as approved by the local school district.
- L. If the district hires an adult athletic trainer, that individual will be supervised by the athletic director and will provide direct supervision to any student trainers.
- M. Students will be informed through the athletic handbook that during any sports season after joining a school squad, a student may participate in non-school activities provided the student does not miss a team practice or scheduled contest.

The superintendent shall prepare rules for the conduct of student athletes including, but not limited to, use of alcoholic beverages; use of tobacco; use or possession of illegal chemical substances or opiates not prescribed by a physician; physical appearance; curfew; unsportsmanlike conduct; absence from practice; gambling; or any infraction of civil and/or criminal law. Rules and disciplinary actions related to rule violations shall be distributed to each participant and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) prior to the beginning of an athletic season.

Cross References:	Board Policy 2167 Board Policy 3416 Board Policy 3431 Board Policy 4330 Board Policy 9310	Drug and Alcohol Use/Abuse Program Medication at School Emergency Treatment Use of School Facilities Safety Program
	WIAA Handbook	
Legal References:	RCW 28A.400.350  RCW 28A.600.200  RCW 64.41.330 RCW 64.41.340	Liability, life, health, health care, accident, disability, and salary insurance authorized – premiums Interscholar athletic and other extra- curricular activities for students regulation of – Delegation, conditions Public Warnings – School districts Student athletics

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