

WILLOW RUN
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

WILLOW RUN HIGH SCHOOL



ATHLETIC
HANDBOOK

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WILLOW RUN HIGH SCHOOL



WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

MISSION STATEMENT

Willow Run Community Schools believes that all people can learn. Our responsibility is to ensure all learners to be successful in the 21st century.

WILLOW RUN HIGH SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

The Willow Run High School Staff believes that all students can learn. Our mission is to provide instructional and educational experiences that make most of every student's potential by using techniques which assure academic improvement and promotes productive citizenship.

It is the policy of the Willow Run Community School District that no person shall on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status or handicap be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination, in employment or any of its programs or activities.

PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Athletics is an integral part of the Willow Run High School program. The Willow Run community is extremely proud of its athletic teams and their past accomplishments, and considers athletic participation a privilege. To help insure further success in interscholastic athletics we need the cooperation of parents, community, staff, and students with the implementation of the District's Athletic Policy. Athletics, like all other aspects of the Willow Run Community School District, are governed by the Board of Education.

Building athletic decisions are the responsibility of the Athletic Director with the Athletic Council servicing an advisory role.

All students have the opportunity to equally compete for positions on all athletic positions on all athletic teams within Board of Education, Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and athletic policy guidelines. The school district encourages all interested students who are eligible and pass a physical examination to try out for interscholastic athletics.

The policies contained herein are reflected in full in the Board of Education Policy 5xxx.

Acknowledgement Form
Extra/Co-Curricular
Student Activities Guideline
Willow Run Community Schools

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
RULES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS

Student's Name: _____
(Please Print) Last First Middle

Class of: _____
(Year you will graduate)

Statement to be signed by student and parent/guardian:

I have received a copy of and have read the Student Activities Guideline for all the extra/co-curricular activities sponsored by the Willow Run Community Schools. I understand the guidelines and accept my personal responsibility for following all of them.

_____ Date: _____
(Student Signature)

I acknowledge receiving the Student Activities Guidelines for all extra/co-curricular activities sponsored by the Willow Run Community Schools. I accept my responsibility for helping my son/daughter live up to the guidelines.

_____ Date: _____

THE FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND PLACED ON FILE IN THE ATHLETIC OFFICE AS A CONDITION OF PARTICIPATING IN ATHLETIC PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE WILLOW RUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

Enrollment

A student must have been enrolled in a High School not later than Monday of the fourth (4th) week of the semester in which he/she competes.

Age

Any student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest must be under nineteen (19) years of age except a student whose nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year eligible for the balance of that school year.

Physical Examination

No student shall be eligible to represent a High School if there is not one file with the Athletic Director, or that school, a physician's statement for the current school year certifying that the student has passed a physical examination and that, in the opinion of the examining physician, the student is fully able to compete in athletic contests.

Season of Competition

No student, while enrolled in grade nine through twelve, shall be eligible to compete for more than four (4) seasons in either first or second semester athletics.

Semester of Enrollment

No student shall compete in any branch of athletics who has been enrolled in grade nine through twelve, inclusive, for more than eight semesters. The seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. Enrollment in a school for a period of three weeks or more, or competing in one or more interscholastic athletic contest, shall be considered as enrollment for a semester under this rule.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
RULES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS

Transfers

Transfers students must comply with the Michigan High School Athletic Association Transfer Policy.

Awards

A student shall be ineligible if he/she accepts merchandise certificates, cash or any other type of negotiable certificate of value over \$15.00.

Amateur Practices

No student shall be eligible to represent his/her High School who:

1. Has received money for participating in athletics, sports or games;
2. Has received money or other valuable consideration for officiating in interscholastic athletic contests;
3. Has signed a contract with any professional team.

Limited Team Membership

- A. After participating in an athletic contest as a member of a high school athletic team, a student/athlete cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his/her school in the same sport during the same season, as governed by the MHSAA.
- B. You shall not participate on any “all-star” team during the school year (football, basketball only).

RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT
IN SCHEDULED STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Talented and active students often find themselves scheduled to perform for two different school activities on the same day and a choice must be made. The guidelines below are presented for use by sponsors/coaches of co-curricular activities: athletics, music activities, dramatics, forensics, debate, etc.

- A. Sponsors and coaches should inform their students of scheduled contests and/or activities. Students should be encouraged to examine their calendars carefully and notify the teacher or coach IMMEDIATELY if a potential conflict appears, so that ample time is provided for arriving at a reasonable solution. (National college entrance exam dates are particularly relevant to this provision, and should be planned in accordance with athletic and performing arts events schedules.
- B. Students and their parents/guardian should be an integral part of the decision-making process. When conflicts cannot be resolved between the student, his/her parent, and the coach/sponsor, the Athletic Director will be asked to assist.
- C. If resolution cannot be reached, the principal or his/her designee should be included. All parties affected by the resolution will be informed as soon as possible.

**ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR WILLOW RUN HIGH
SCHOOL ATHLETES**

Appeal Procedure

The coach and the Athletic Council will be actively involved in discipline cases involving student athletes. The athlete will have the opportunity to be heard, respond, and appeal. It is the athletes responsibility to submit written communication requesting an appeal within 5 days of notification of penalty. The Level of appeal is as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Level 1: Coach | Level 4: Principal |
| Level 2: Athletic Director | Level 5: Superintendent |
| Level 3: Athletic Council | Level 6: Board of Education |
- (excluding Head Coach of Athlete appealing)

Athletic Council

The Athletic Council will be composed of the athletic director, Principal and/or designee, or a parent and head varsity coaches of the high school. They will have the authority to deal with clarification of athletic policies, i.e. eligibility, suspensions of any athlete, expulsion from participation by an athlete in a sport, etc.

In general, the Athletic Council has the advisory responsibility for all cases in discipline of an athlete representing Willow Run High School.

Medical Policy and Athletic Insurance Forms

The Board of Education assumes no responsibility relative to doctor and hospital expenses. Athletics are a voluntary activity and the student participates with the approval of his/her parents and at his/her own risk of injury.

The athlete's parents must either pay for school sponsored insurance or sign a waiver stating that they already have adequate health insurance under their family plan.

Return to Participation from Illness or Injury

Athletes who are out of school due to an injury or illness, may not participate in practice or contests without written permission from the athlete's physician.

Athletic Awards

Each coach is responsible for informing team members of the standards and requirements for earning an award in that sport. The requirements for presenting awards in each sport will be determined by the head coach and approved by the Athletic Director.

Enrollment

- A. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must be enrolled in the maximum number of classes offered by the school four (4) blocks.
- B. Seniors who have been approved for a reduced schedule must be enrolled in a minimum of three (3) blocks.

Athletic Eligibility

- A. Classes-Students must be enrolled in four (4) classes and pass at least three (3). Seniors who have been approved for reduced schedules must be enrolled in a minimum of three (3) classes.
- B. Students must attend a minimum of two (2) classes daily to participate in a game or practice that same day. On half days, students must attend a minimum of two (2) classes.
- C. Grade Point Average-Recognizing that academic achievement is the priority for students; a student must establish and maintain an acceptable academic record of performance to be eligible to participate in athletics.

Each student athlete must maintain a 2.0 ("C") grade point average for each immediately preceding marking period. The GPA is computed by dividing the sum of the values of the letter grades by number of courses taken. (A=4; B=3; C=2; D=1; E=0).

- D. Eligibility will be checked each card marking period. Athletes below a 2.0 ("C") grade average will be ineligible to participate in competition for the following six (6) week period. However, an ineligible student will be reinstated if he/she fills out an athletic eligibility probation contract. This is a one time option! This is per tenure of school.
- E. Semester grade point average may be used in place of the third marking period for eligibility purposes. However by State rule if a student receives 2 E's, they are ineligible for the next semester. If a student completes summer school, the summer school grade can replace an E only if the class taken in summer school is for the class the student received an E in.
- F. Administrative Waiver
 - A. The waiver will be made only by the school principal. In all waivers the student must be passing all four (4) classes.
 - B. Examples of possible waiver:
 - 1. Extended illness
 - 2. Death in family
 - 3. Certified Learning Disabilities

ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITIES

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CODE OF CONDUCT

The athletes competing in interscholastic sports represent the team, school, parents, and the community. The conduct of the athletes, both on and off the field of competition, should reflect the standards and value of the school district. The following responsibilities are required of athletes representing the Willow Run Community Schools.

Equipment - Athletes will be responsible for all school equipment which is issued to them during a sport season.

- A. All equipment will be issued and recorded by the Head Coach.
- B. The athlete must maintain issued equipment in a clean manner. Coaches will determine the procedure for cleaning uniforms.
- C. All equipment must be returned to the coach after the sport season is completed. All lost or stolen equipment is the responsibility of the athlete. Athletes will be required to pay for lost or stolen equipment. Any equipment not returned in acceptable condition, or any lost/stolen equipment that has not been paid for may cause the athlete to be restricted from competition in any other extracurricular activity until his responsibility for the equipment has been cleared up by the athletic director.

Code of Conduct

Civil violations, violation of the athletic policy, the high school discipline policy, or behavior of the Willow Run Community Schools may result in dismissal from athletic participation. Because athletics is considered an extension of the school day/program, the Willow run High School discipline policy applies to all athletes while participating in any and all phases of the athletic program, before, during, and after school hours, while in competition or practice, and all activities associated thereof.

Athletes are considered ambassadors of good will and are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior on and off the court or field. It is expected that athletes will carry the tradition of Willow Run High School with pride and dignity.

Athletics is a privilege and thus is governed by rules and regulations of the athletic policy. Any violation of rules/regulations by the athlete will result in disciplinary action. Those rules include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Any athlete who is found possessing and/or using illegal or unauthorized substance (including alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana) will be removed from that team for the rest of the season. If an athlete is found possessing/using illegal or unauthorized substances at the end of one sport season, he/she may be restricted from participating in the next sport season. Consistency, fairness and the extent of the discipline shall be reviewed by the Athletic Council and recommendation made to the Athletic Director.
- B. Suspension-Any athlete who is suspended from school (in-school, out of school) while participating on an athletic team, will not be allowed to play in any scheduled contests during the suspension. Suspensions begin and end with the regular school day. A two day suspension, for example, issued during the day on Tuesday, begins at the end of the school day on Tuesday and ends at the beginning of the school day on Friday.
- C. Sportsmanship-The excessive display of temper, loss of self-control, use of obscene language or gestures will result in the athlete being removed from the contest by the coach, and may result in a suspension from the next interscholastic game. A subsequent offense may result in a referral to the Athletic Council for disposition, and may result in suspension.
- D. Stealing-Any student/athlete who is found stealing will be removed from the team for the balance of that sports season to include at least one month. Second offense-suspended for the balance of the school year to include at least the next sports season and review by the Athletic Council.
- E. Any athlete participating in a school sponsored team must accompany that team to and from the event on school approved modes of transportation. Exception to this may be made only with prior notification and approval by the Athletic Director.
- F. Generally, athletes are not encouraged to participate in more than one sport at any given time. There are occasions when an athlete genuinely would like to change sports during a particular season. This may be done only if the following requirements are met:
 - 1. The change must occur before the first contest of the season of both sports involved.
 - 2. The change must be approved by both head coaches.
 - 3. The change must be approved by the Athletic Director.
- G. Individual teams may have rules specific to the sport and athletes in those sports will be provided with a copy. Team rules will be on file in the Athletic Director's Office.