

ESCANABA AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

"Experiencing Education with Pride"

Athletic Procedures and Regulations

Philosophy

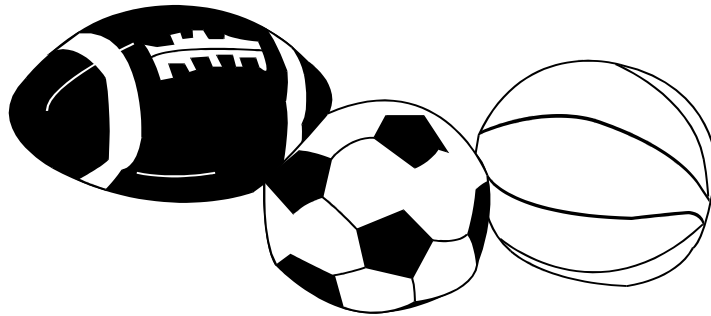
As an educational institution, Escanaba Middle School endeavors to educate the individual mentally, morally, socially, and physically. In sports, we strive to develop those characteristics that demonstrate fair play, skill, and loyalty.

A positive public image is the result of the attitudes and ethics displayed before, during, and after public performances by the various groups. Every adult involved is responsible for fostering and reinforcing this positive image.

Student athletes representing EMS in extracurricular activities will be subject to the rules set forth in this handbook. The Principal, acting through administrators and coaches, is responsible for enforcing these policies.

Participation in intramural and interscholastic athletics at EMS is considered a *privilege*, a *responsibility*, and we hope, a *pleasure*. Athletics are completely extracurricular and voluntary. Regular classes take precedence over athletics.

All participants have certain obligation to themselves, their family, their school, and their community.



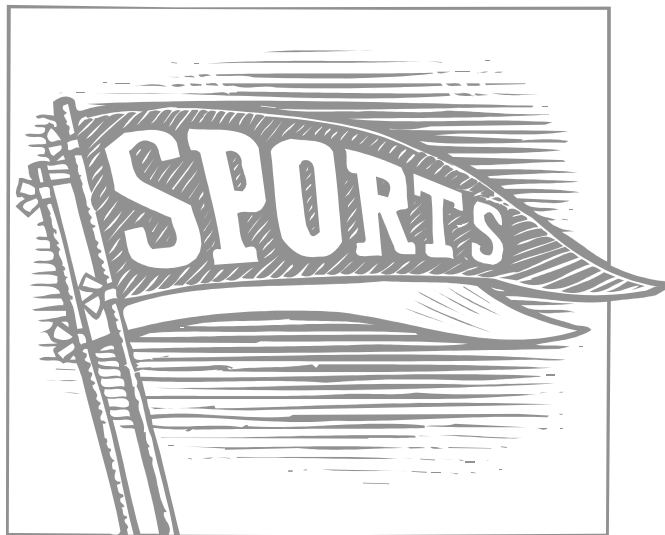
SECTION 1

GOALS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETICS

Athletics provide opportunities for learning experiences difficult to duplicate in other school activities. The EMS Athletic Program has the following major objectives:

- To provide opportunities for athletic competition
- To provide activities that help create a positive school environment
- To help student athletes learn positive health habits, proper hygiene, and safety
- To promote friendship, both with teammates and opponents
- To provide opportunities that develop good sportsmanship
- To develop positive attitudes of teamwork, discipline, cooperation, and to have fun
- To help students realize that participation in school athletics is a privilege with accompanying responsibilities
- To provide activities through sports for learning self-discipline, loyalty, team play, personal pride, respect for the rights of others, and the desire to compete to the best of one's ability.

Life long lessons are learned through athletics!



SECTION II

EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ATHLETES

Participation in school athletics is a privilege and not a right. It is extended to all students who are willing to assume certain responsibilities. Provisions of this handbook apply 24 hours per day and 12 months per year.

We Expect You To:

- Display appropriate decision making skills by not using alcohol, tobacco or any illegal substances
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship
- Show respect for others
- Dress appropriately
- Meet all MHSAA and Escanaba Public Schools eligibility requirements
- Be responsible for school issued equipment or the replacement cost of the equipment, should it be lost, stolen, or damaged
- Use socially acceptable language
- Abide by all school rules and regulations.

SECTION III

REQUIREMENTS

No student shall try-out, participate or play on any school sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team without complying with the following conditions:

A. Physical Examinations

Physician signed physical examination card for that school year on file in the main office.

Exceptions can be made by administration for certain intramural activities.

B. Academic Standards

(Academic eligibility per MHSAA rules and bylaws)

To be eligible for participation in athletic activities, a student must be enrolled as a full time student. A student must maintain a passing grade in six classes at all times.

If a student is not passing at least 6 classes when checked, that student is ineligible for competition until the next check, but not less than for the next Monday through Sunday. If the next eligibility check reveals the student is still not passing at least 6 classes, that student is ineligible for not less than the next Monday through Sunday and so on until the student is passing 6 classes from the start of the semester through the most recent eligibility check.

A student who earns more than two failing grades in a grading period will be ruled ineligible for one week, as long as that individual is enrolled in 8 classes.

A student who fails more than two (2) classes in a semester will be declared ineligible for the following semester.

C. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A student must be in attendance during the school day to participate in a game or to attend a practice session unless the absence has been excused by the proper school authorities.

SECTION III
Cont'd

D. MEDICAL RELEASE

Each athlete must have a Medical Release signed and filled out completely and on file in the Middle School Office.

E. TRANSPORTATION TO OUT OF TOWN GAMES

Athletes selected to represent EMS at out of town games must travel to and from games on the team bus. Exceptions may be made for school or family emergencies. A personal request, in writing, must be submitted by the parent to administration. Such a request should only allow a student to return with the parent making the request.

Absolutely no athletes will be allowed to ride to or from games with anyone besides a parent or legal guardian.

You are a member of the team. Ride home with your team!

SECTION IV

HANDLING ATHLETIC TRAINING RULE VIOLATIONS

Any student athlete reported for a violation will have his/her parents notified. A meeting will then be scheduled with the student, parents, and Assistant Principal or his/her designee. At this meeting the student involved will be notified of the charge, allowed to admit or explain the situation, be informed of the consequences of his/her actions, and be notified of his/her appeal rights. An appeal may be brought before the athletic board, with final appeal being made to the Superintendent of Schools.

All police reports, tickets and direct reports from administration and staff shall be conclusive evidence of a violation resulting in appropriate disciplinary action as determined by the assistant Principal or designee consistent with Section V of this document.

Participation in athletics is a privilege. Failure to abide by established training rules might result in the withdrawal of the privilege to participate, or other appropriate punishment as determined by the Assistant Principal, Principal, or their designee.

It shall be understood that:

- A. Season is defined as the first day of practice through completion of the awards program.
- B. Multi-school meets or tournaments count as one contest when held on one day.
- C. Suspension may carry over into the next participated sport.
- D. Coaches reserve the right to establish additional rules and regulations deemed appropriate, by the Assistant Principal.
- E. The school reserves the right to test athletes for drugs

SECTION V

TRAINING RULES

A student athlete must at all times refrain from any conduct that would reflect unfavorably on himself/herself, team, or the school. Conduct, which would reflect unfavorably on an athlete or on the school includes, but is not limited, to the following:

- A. Any violation of state laws, local ordinances or district policies.
- B. Vandalism.
- C. Theft.
- D. Physical Violence.
- E. Profanity or obscene gestures.
- F. Insubordination.
- G. Illegal use/possession/purchase/sale of a controlled substance.
Controlled substances are defined but not limited to: alcohol, steroids, prescription drugs or any narcotic drug.
- H. Possession/use of any tobacco products.
- I. Presence in a bar or tavern without parent/legal guardian.
- J. Attendance at a gathering of two or more individuals where controlled substances as defined in (V-G) are present, even if the athlete does not possess or use the controlled substances.

The intent of V-I & J is not to deny attendance with adult family members or parental family friends in gatherings such as weddings, anniversaries, picnics, self-publicized community events, or employment-related activities.

If an athlete unknowingly arrives at a gathering considered unacceptable as defined above, he/she should leave immediately upon discovering the nature of the gathering.

SECTION VI

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK VIOLATIONS/CONSEQUENCES CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE/TOBACCO

A. Attendance at a gathering where controlled substances are present is a violation. (no possession or use)

1. First Violation

A. Warning

2. Second Violation

A. Loss of 10% of scheduled contests of the season or at least the next scheduled competition.

B. Student athlete shall practice with permission from the assistant Principal and coach.

C. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.

3. Third Violation

A. Loss of 33% of scheduled contests of the season.

B. Student athlete shall practice or participate in try-outs with permission from the Assistant Principal and coach.

C. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.

4. Fourth Violation

A. Loss of 12 months of scheduled contests.

B. Student athlete may practice or participate in tryouts with permission from the Assistant Principal and coach.

C. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.

5. Fifth Violation

Loss of participation privileges for the remainder of Middle School eligibility.

SECTION VI
Cont'd

B. Possession/Use of controlled substances, and tobacco products. As it applies to controlled substances, violations of this section constitute violations of section A.

1. First Violation

- A. Loss of 10% of scheduled contests of the season or at least the next scheduled competition.
- B. May have an appropriate chemical dependency assessment and a community/school Alcohol or Drug Awareness Program completed at student's expense.
- C. Student athlete shall practice with permission from the assistant Principal and coach.
- D. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.
- E. Failure to comply with all of the above eliminates the athlete from further participation.

2. Second Violation

- A. Loss of 33% of scheduled contests of the season.
- B. Will have an appropriate chemical dependency assessment and a community/school Alcohol or Drug Awareness Program at student expense. Failure to comply with all of the above will eliminate the athlete from further participation.
- C. Student athlete shall practice or participate in try-outs with permission from the Assistant Principal and coach.
- D. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.

3. Third Violation

- A. Loss of 12 months of scheduled contests.
- B. Student athlete may practice or participate in tryouts with permission from the Assistant Principal and coach.
- C. Student athlete shall not participate in any exhibition events.

4. Fourth Violation

Loss of participation privileges for the remainder of Middle School athletic eligibility.

SECTION VII

APPEAL PROCEDURE

The athlete and/or parent(s) or guardian(s) may request in writing that the Assistant Principal convene an appeal hearing regarding a suspension decision. The normal procedure would be as follows:

- Step 1. A written request to the building Principal or Assistant Principal (within twenty-four hours of decision) for a hearing before a council which will consist of three coaches and the building Principal. The Head Coach directly involved can not serve on the Appeal Board.
- Step 2. A written request for a hearing with the Superintendent must be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools.

*All athletes should be insured in case of injury.
The school does not provide medical insurance for athletes.*

SECTION VIII

SELF DISCLOSURE

Definition:

Self-disclosure is an effort to seek help with alcohol or drug dependency. This is a request for professional help for an alcohol or drug abuse problem.

Admitting to a drug use, abuse, or dependency problem after being confronted or investigated by school or law enforcement officials is not self-disclosure.

Requirements:

Self-disclosure requires assessment by a licensed drug/alcohol agency, and adherence to their recommended care plan. If the student/parent makes a self-disclosure and follows the required care plan, participation in athletics may be allowed by the Principal only, provided the agreed health care plan is followed satisfactorily.

SECTION IX

CUMULATIVE RECORD

Repeated offenses to the Athletic Rules indicate that a student is at-risk. Accordingly, identified infractions of the Athletic Handbook are cumulative from grade 7 through 8. To provide a positive incentive for students to learn from their mistakes, a one-time reduction in the cumulative record of violations may be earned. Students' remaining free of Athletic Handbook infractions for a twelve-month consecutive period of time will have the cumulative record reduced one-time by one violation step while eligible for Middle School athletics.

ATHLETIC AND INTRAMURAL
ELIGIBILITY, EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION
AND ATHLETIC CODE AGREEMENT FORM

This form must be signed by the athlete and the parent or legal guardian and presented to the office staff or coach prior to the athletes' participation in any sport sponsored by EMS.

Athlete's Name _____

Birth Date _____ Grade _____ Sex _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Name _____

Telephone Number (Home) _____ (Business) _____

Address _____

In the event parents cannot be contacted, please contact:

Phone: _____
Phone: _____

Preferred Physician _____

Preferred Physician _____

List sports the above-named athlete plays:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Insurance Information

No student may be a member of any intramural or athletic team unless he/she or his/her parents or guardians have adequate insurance to cover possible injury. Please check one of the three options listed below.

- (1) _____ We have adequate insurance and assume all financial responsibilities.
Insurance Company: _____
- (2) _____ We have enrolled in the insurance plan offered by the school.
- (3) _____ Not covered by insurance but I / we will assume this responsibility.