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## **CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

**Noblesville Schools has a policy of providing equal opportunity. All courses are open to all students regardless of age, race, color, sex, handicapping condition, national origin, or limited English proficiency.**

**Educational services, program, instruction, and facilities will not be denied to anyone in Noblesville Schools as a result of his or her age, race, color, sex, handicapping condition, national origin, or limited English proficiency.**

**For further information, clarification, or complaint regarding an athletic program or situation, please contact:**

**Mr. Mark Booth, Director of Student Services  
Noblesville Schools  
18025 River Road  
Noblesville IN 46062  
(317) 773-3171**

## Section 1) STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the Noblesville High School Athletic Department is to offer the opportunity to be a part of a team to as many of our students as possible. We feel strongly that athletics are extremely important in the development of the mind as well as the body. We feel leadership skills can be developed through athletics. Being an athlete at Noblesville High School is a privilege; we therefore have the right to expect higher standards of behavior from our athletes than we do the general student body. We expect positive leadership at all times, as well as promote high levels of achievement academically and athletically. Winning is very important to our athletic programs; however, handling setbacks is equally important. Being successful is not always recorded on the scoreboard or in the won-loss records.

## Section 2) IHSAA SPORTS OFFERED

### Fall

Boys - Football, Soccer, Cross Country, Tennis, Unified Flag Football  
Girls - Volleyball, Soccer, Cross Country, Golf, Cheerleading, Dance

### Winter

Boys - Basketball, Wrestling, Swimming, Cheerleading  
Girls - Basketball, Gymnastics, Swimming, Cheerleading, Dance  
Co-Ed -Unified Bowling

### Spring

Boys - Baseball, Track, Golf  
Girls - Softball, Track, Tennis  
Co-Ed -Unified Track & Field

## Section 3) CALL OUT PROCEDURES

All sports have call outs on the daily announcements. Fall sports usually have call outs in the spring, winter sports in the fall, and spring sports in the winter. The **Noblesville Times**, **Hamilton County Reporter** and **Indianapolis Star** normally announce starting dates for fall sports during the summer months. Information may be obtained by calling the coach in a particular sport, the Athletic Office at 317-776-6266 or via the Noblesville Schools website at [www.noblesvilleschools.org](http://www.noblesvilleschools.org)

## Section 4) PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Each participant is to have on file a completed IHSAA Parent-Physician Form (i.e. physical). A date for physicals will be set up at Noblesville High School and will be announced at school and via the **Noblesville Times and Noblesville Schools website**. This date is normally in April or early May and there is a nominal charge per physical. All sections of the physical form must be fully completed including signatures of the athlete, the parents, and the physicians. Physical forms are available in the Athletic Office. The IHSAA requires that physicals be dated between **April 1** and the first practice for that sport for each school year. **Students may not practice until a completed physical form and all permission/rules forms are signed electronically.**

**Introduction**

**It is the responsibility of the student-athlete and their parents/guardians to take the time to read the following rules and policies and to make sure the student-athlete understands his/her role in athletics. These standards have been agreed upon by the Athletic Council; consisting of the Principal, Assistant Principals, Athletic Director, and all Head Coaches.**

The following rules, adopted by the Athletic Council, are for all Noblesville High School athletes, managers, athletic trainer student aides, or other students involved in support of an athletic team. The coach of a particular sport may require rules in addition to these rules, which may be stricter than these rules. Participation in Noblesville High School athletics is a privilege, and not a right. Noblesville High School expects a higher standard of conduct from its athletes than from students who are non-athletes. If a student does not wish to follow this higher standard of conduct, then he or she should decide not to be a Noblesville High School athlete. During the time a student is a Noblesville High School athlete, he or she will be in the public eye and will be representing the school not only while participating in a particular sport, **but also at all other times, both in and out of school, and during non-school hours, including vacations.**

In order to participate in an extra-curricular activity (including athletics), a student must be enrolled in the Noblesville High School Drug/Substance Abuse Program.

**Noblesville High School  
Voluntary Drug/Substance Abuse Testing Program**

**What?**

**This program has three goals:**

- To insure student safety
- To provide a positive learning environment for students
- To insure that students who represent NHS are free from drugs and other dangerous substances

**Why?**

- National, State and Local statistics show that the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drugs at NHS is higher than national averages.
- The majority of athletic code violations involved substance abuse.
- Suspensions for substance abuse have been on the rise over the past 5 years.
- Of students currently on court probations, 49% have substance abuse violations.
- Random testing limits the effects of peer pressure to use drugs.

**Who?**

- Students involved in extracurricular and co-curricular activities (sports, clubs, and performing arts groups)
- Students who drive to school
- Students with Senior Honor Code
- Students who wish to attend dances (Homecoming, Prom)

**How?**

- Students will be selected randomly
- Urine specimen collection and lab procedures will insure valid results

## What If?

- First positive test  
Suspension from listed activities for 22 days if the students and the parent/guardian agree to an assessment and completed the recommendations of the assessment. Suspension for 45 days if the student and parent/guardian do not complete recommendations for the assessment.
- Second positive test  
Suspension from listed activities for one calendar year. (The suspension may be reduced to six months with the conditions of rehabilitation and additional tests.)
- Third positive test  
Ineligibility for the listed activities for the remainder of the time the student is enrolled at NHS.
- You do not agree to the conditions of the testing program  
Participation in the listed activities will not be permitted

## When?

- This form must be completed and submitted to Student Services by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The form only needs to be completed one time. Once the form is on file, it is good for the entire time the student is enrolled at NHS.

A positive test in this program will be considered a violation of Rule #1 below.

## RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

1. An athlete shall not at any time, on or off school property, possess, sell, use, or be under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, or intoxicants of any kind.
2. An athlete shall not, at any time, on or off school property, possess or use tobacco in any form. This shall include, but not be limited to snuff, chewing tobacco, or smoking tobacco.
3. An athlete shall not engage in actions which result in criminal arrest, conviction, or produce other evidence of criminal wrongdoing that are not in keeping with the general philosophy of athletics. Examples are, but not limited, to shoplifting, theft, vandalism, criminal mischief, and assault.
4. All of these rules are in effect year-round, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. That is, the rules are in effect during the season, the off-season, and during the summer and all other vacations.
5. An athlete must pass five subjects every grading period to be eligible to participate in athletics. Grades are issued every nine weeks. Midterm reports do not count toward eligibility.
6. There is an age limitation to participate in athletics. An athlete is eligible so long as he or she is not age twenty on or before the day of the state finals of that given sport.
7. If an athlete is absent from practice for **five to ten days** due to illness or injury, he or she will be required to present written proof from a doctor stating the athlete is able to attend practice and participate again. The athlete must then participate in a minimum of **four** practices before being eligible to compete in a contest. (1 day per maximum)
8. If an athlete is absent from practice for **more than ten days** due to illness or injury, he or she will be required to present written proof from a doctor stating the athlete is able to attend practice and participate again. The athlete must then participate in a minimum of **six** practices before being eligible to compete in a contest. (1 per day maximum)
9. An athlete must have ten separate days of practice before participating in any sporting event; an exception is girl's golf, which requires only two days. Individual student athletes moving directly from one sport season to the next sport season may be eligible to participate in a following season

contest after five separate days of organized practice under the direct supervision of the high school coaching staff. (1 per day maximum)

10. If an athlete transfers to Noblesville High School, the athlete must complete an athletic transfer from their previous school. Those forms are available in the Athletic Office and require a parent meeting with the Athletic Director and completion of the transfer forms.
11. Athletes are responsible for the care of athletic equipment issued to them, and may be expected to pay for any lost equipment or equipment which is damaged by carelessness.
12. As a representative of Noblesville High School, athletes are expected to be well groomed and neat in appearance at all times. In the event that a student has a documented medical reason for not being able to meet the coach's policy regarding proper grooming, the Athletic Director may exempt that particular athlete from that rule.
13. Athletes are not to be in the school building or on school property without supervision. Examples are, but not limited to, facilities usage and weight room.
14. An athlete shall practice and participate in only one sport at a time, unless coaches in two programs agree to share an athlete. In this case, both coaches, the athlete, his/her parents and the athletic director will meet to outline the season in the best interest of the athlete (Non-school sports or "club teams" are not governed by this rule). If a conflicting situation arises, a meeting of the athlete, parents, coaches and athletic director will be held to resolve the situation.
15. If a conflict arises involving a high school athletic contest and an event related to another school activity, the coach and teacher/sponsor will discuss whether arrangements can be made to allow the student to participate in both events. If an agreement cannot be reached, the student and parent(s) will decide how to best proceed in the best interest of the student. Teachers and coaches may assign alternative work/tasks in place of the missed event. No additional or punitive penalties may be assessed beyond the loss of benefits (e.g. grades, participation) inherent to the event itself.
16. **Before the first practice**, a student-athlete and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) must have the following forms on electronically: 1) a completed physical form; 2) Pages 21-23 of the NHS Athletic Handbook completed & signed by the student-athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s); and 3) the Concussion Acknowledgment & Signature form for parents & student-athletes.
17. Noblesville High School is governed by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA). While athletes may not know each and every rule of the IHSAA, they should contact their coach or Athletic Director if they have any questions concerning the rules and regulations of the IHSAA. If athletes know of any violation of these rules and regulations, it is their responsibility to bring this to the attention of their coach and/or Athletic Director.
18. If an athlete makes a team, he or she may not leave that team for any reason and start practice with any other team, unless released by the first team's coach.
19. All team equipment remains the property of Noblesville High School. Student should not, without permission, take or keep team equipment.
20. Players violating team rules may be dismissed from a team at any time.
21. In addition to these rules, athletes are also bound by the rules of the Noblesville High School Handbook as well as the rules of the IHSAA.

## PENALTIES

**NOTE: Noblesville Schools has an agreement with the local law enforcement agencies and the judicial department that allows the sharing of information regarding students who may be involved in activities that violate the Rules For Participation.**

Violation of Rule 1, 2 or 3 during the student's high school eligibility for Noblesville High School athletic teams would result in the following penalties:

### FIRST VIOLATION

- A. If there is a violation, an athlete will be ineligible for the number of contests as designated below:
1. Violation of Rule #1 - 30% of the scheduled contests.
    - a. If the student-athlete self-reports a violation of Rule 1 to a Building Administrator, Head Coach of the Program or Athletic Director, the penalty shall be reduced to 20% of the scheduled contests. Self-reporting is accomplished when a student comes forward of his/her own accord prior to any notification. All other penalties shall apply.
  2. Violation of Rule #2 - 10% of the scheduled contests.
  3. Violation of Rule #3 - The Athletic Director and Principal (or Principal's designee) shall determine the length of the suspension. The penalty may be from 30% of a season to being expelled from all sports participation during his or her high school career, depending on the severity of the offense.

The penalty begins the day of the athletic suspension or the meeting with the Athletic Director(s), whichever occurs first. Any penalty that has not been served will be carried over to the next sport season. If the violation occurs during the off-season, or if the violation(s) must be carried over from one sport to another, the suspension must be served in a sport the athlete previously participated.

- B. The athlete and parent will be required to meet with a Student Assistance Program representative to discuss the situation and determine an appropriate course of action. A remedial or substance abuse education program, attended by both the parent and child, will be a mandatory requirement for athletic reinstatement.
- C. If an outside assessment and/or rehabilitation program is recommended, the student or his/her family will be responsible for all expenses incurred.
- D. In addition, the student-athlete will take a drug test at the end of his/her suspension at the parents' expense. If the student tests "negative", he/she may participate. If the student tests "positive", this will be considered an additional violation of said Rule.

### SECOND VIOLATION

- A. After confirmation of a second violation of Rule 1, 2, or 3, during the student's high school eligibility the student will lose eligibility to participate in sports for

one calendar year from the date of such confirmation.

- B. The student may elect a probationary period in lieu of the one-year suspension, and may reestablish his/her eligibility to participate in sports provided the following terms are met:
1. The probationary period will last for one calendar year.
  2. The student will be ineligible to participate in 50% of the scheduled contests in each sport season during the probationary year and this will carry over to the following school year if necessary.
  3. The student will agree to meet regularly with a Student Assistance representative for the purpose of becoming and/or staying drug-free.
  4. If the student fails to meet this person as required during the probationary period, or to fulfill the terms of probation, the Principal and Athletic Director will be notified and the student will become ineligible to participate in any sporting events for the remainder of the original suspension period.
  5. The student will take a drug test at the end of his/her suspension at the parents' expense. If the student tests "negative", he/she may participate. If the student tests "positive", this will be considered another violation of said Rule.
  6. Upon successful completion of the probationary period, the student shall obtain eligibility to participate in sports without further intervention.
- C. The penalty for second violation of Rule 3 will be determined by the Athletic Director and the Principal (or the Principal's designee). The penalty may be from one-year suspension of sports participation to being expelled from all sports participation for the remainder of his/her career. The probationary period (Option B) may or may not be an option, as determined by the Principal and Athletic Director.

### **THIRD VIOLATION**

After confirmation of a third violation of Rule 1, 2, or 3, the athlete is expelled from all sports programs at Noblesville High School for the remainder of the student's high school years.

### **AWARDS**

1. After a first violation of Rule 1, 2, or 3, the athlete may, at the coach's discretion, be eligible for an award in that sport if the athlete completes the remainder of that season in good standing.
2. An athlete who violates Rule 1, 2, or 3 for a second or third offense **WILL NOT** receive an award in the sport during the season the violation occurred or in the sport designated by the Athletic Director if the violation occurs between seasons.



## **Section 6) ATHLETIC REVIEW BOARD**

Any disciplinary decision made by the Athletic Director may be appealed to the Athletic Review Board (ARB). The ARB will be comprised of one school board member, one administrator (who will serve as the facilitator for the appeals), and four head coaches. There will be six coaches (three boys' team head coaches and three girls' team head coaches) assigned to the ARB for one school year. The student-athlete may choose two of the six to serve on the ARB for his/her appeal, and the Athletic Director shall choose two of the remaining coaches to serve on the ARB for that particular appeal. The mission of the ARB will be to review all pertinent facts regarding the decision in question and decide whether the rules in the NHS Athletic Handbook were applied properly. All self-reports are not appealable or reviewable.

When a decision is made that you wish to appeal, it is expected that you contact the Athletic Director making that decision. After the action has been discussed with the Athletic Director and you still feel the decision is inappropriate, you may file an appeal with the ARB.

To request action by the ARB you must submit in writing to the Athletic Director, within 14 calendar days of the decision to be reviewed, the following:

- 1) Decision being appealed.
- 2) Reason for appeal.
- 3) Any pertinent information supporting the reason for appeal.

The ARB will convene at the earliest possible time to review materials. The ARB will request information from both parties. This information can be presented to the ARB in written form and/or via presentation. A final written decision of the ARB will be sent to the appealing party, the Athletic Director, the Superintendent, the Principal, and members of the ARB. The Athletic Review Board's decision will be final.

2018-19 ARB Committee Members

School Board Member: TBD

Building Administrator: Mr. Jeff Bryant or Mr. Craig McCaffrey

Head Coaches (Boys): Mr. Brain McCauley, Mr. Justin Roden, Mr. Ken Dollaske

Head Coaches (Girls): Mrs. Donna Buckley, Mr. Dennis Scheele, Mr. Justin Werkley

## **Section 7) MINIMUM ATTENDANCE POLICY**

A student-athlete at Noblesville High School has three options to adhere to Athletic Handbook Policy allowing a student-athlete to be eligible to participate in practice or in any athletic contest scheduled on a school day.

- 1) Attend school all day (7:35a.m. - 2:35p.m.)
- 2) Attend school one-half day - a.m. (two full consecutive periods Monday -Friday)  
7:35a.m. - 10:42a.m.
- 3) Attend school one-half day - p.m. (two full consecutive periods Monday -Friday)  
10:49a.m. - 2:35p.m.

A student-athlete may miss a practice or contest due to academic related purposes, illness and/or

extenuating family circumstances that are beyond the student's control. Students are expected to notify the coach in advance when possible for missing a scheduled practice/event. Students may be required to make up a missed practice(s) to work on skills or conditioning missed during their absence.

## **Section 8) STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

- 1) Athletic Policy: A student-athlete may refer himself/herself to the Student Assistance Program without penalty, provided the following criteria are met:
  - a) Student enters the program before any possible detection or arrest.
  - b) Student successfully completes the program.
- 2) Should the athlete violate Section 5, Rule 1, 2, or 3 at a later time, it would be considered the athlete's second violation.

## **Section 9) NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER**

If your student-athlete plans to enroll in college following high school and wishes to participate in collegiate athletics, his/her initial eligibility status must be determined by the **NCAA Eligibility Center**. Here are frequently asked questions:

### **When should a student register with the NCAA Eligibility Center?**

Students should register with the Eligibility Center at the beginning of their junior year in high school. At the end of the student's junior year, a transcript, which includes six semesters of grades, should be sent to the Eligibility Center from the high school. Additionally, students should have their SAT or ACT scores forwarded directly to the Eligibility Center (by using code "9999") whenever they take the exam.

### **What requirements do I need to be able to practice, play and get a scholarship at an NCAA Division I or II College or university?**

You need to complete the following:

1. Graduate from high school;
2. Complete a minimum of 16 (for Division I) or 16 (for Division II) core courses;
3. Present the required grade-point average (GPA) (see the sliding scale in the Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete for Division I or a minimum 2.0 GPA for Division II);
4. Present a qualifying test score on either the ACT or SAT (see the sliding scale in the Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete); and
5. Complete the amateurism questionnaire and request final amateurism certification.

### **How do I know if the courses I am taking will count as core courses?**

You need to look at your high school's NCAA List of Approved Core Courses. Follow these steps:

1. Go to the NCAA Eligibility Center website at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net);
2. Click on "General Information";
3. Click on "List of Approved Core Courses";
4. Input your high school's CEEB code (if you know it) or search by your high school's name and state; and
5. Review the list.

It is the prospective student-athlete's responsibility to make sure the NCAA Eligibility Center has the necessary documents to be certified. You may access your high school's list of approved core courses through the NCAA website; [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org) ... or you may obtain the list from your guidance counselor.

You should work closely with your counselor as soon as your freshman year is

completed, to be sure you are taking the required core curriculum courses for NCAA eligibility. Also, you should communicate with your coach your desire to participate in collegiate sports, as they can help you prepare for and search for an appropriate college opportunity.

#### **Section 10) ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA), of which NHS is a voluntary member requires student-athletes to be passing in five (5) subjects or equivalents. At NHS, athletics can be a very important part of one's high school experience, but the academic commitment is and always will be the most important goal we have. We expect our student-athletes to work to their potential in the classroom in order to become outstanding citizens in our community.

#### **Section 11) INSURANCE**

NHS does not carry medical/hospitalization insurance for its athletes. This is considered to be a parental responsibility. Though, there are several plans available through the school and H.J. Spier Co., Inc. Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company is the parent company of H.J. Spier Co., Inc. This coverage has premiums from \$28.00 (school time) to \$110.00 (24 Hour coverage) for all sports except football. The premium for football is \$275.00, GOOD FOR FOOTBALL ONLY. The H.J. Spier Company is providing additional coverage under a double benefit program for \$54.00 (school time) and \$220.00 (24-hour coverage) and \$550.00 (football only). There is also a 24-hour extended dental benefit. The IHSAA provides to each school and athlete a catastrophic plan that has a \$25,000 deductible (your own basic coverage would cover this). The benefits from this policy are open-ended. Inquiries should be directed to the Athletic office.

#### **Section 12) AWARDS SYSTEM**

The awards system for participation in athletics at NHS has been established as:

- a) to comply with all rules and regulations of the IHSAA.
- b) to duly recognize and honor all athletic participants fairly in accordance with their achievements.
- c) to encourage and foster interests and development of the entire athletic program.
- d) to remain in accordance with awards systems of similar-sized schools.
- e) to comply with our athletic budget.
- f) to equalize the importance of each sport for each athlete – male or female.

**MINOR AWARD** - A minor sports certificate is awarded to all athletes who do not qualify for a varsity award. This award receives one-half (0.5) service point.

**VARSITY AWARD** – A varsity sports certificate is awarded to all athletes who meet the requirements of the head coach for a varsity award. This award receives one (1.0) service point.

**LETTER PLAQUE WITH CHENILLE BLOCK "N"** - An athlete who receives his/her first varsity award is eligible to purchase a wooden “N” plaque. This award may be ordered with payment in the Athletic Office.

**JACKET WITH 6" BLOCK "N"** - An athlete is eligible for a jacket when he/she accumulates one (1.0) varsity award. This award is purchased jointly by the athlete and the Miller Backers and may be ordered with payment in the Athletic Office. Miller Backers pay \$60 of the student-athletes letter jacket.

**BLANKET** - Any athlete accumulating 9 service points with varsity awards in 3 different sports will be presented a blanket on Honors Night; provided there have been no rules violations during his/her four years of high school.

## **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- a) Attendance, attitude, training and school citizenship will be considered in the awards.
- b) Transfer students can transfer their athletic points to NHS by providing documentation of awards earned from previous school(s).
- c) Injured players may receive the awards they would have received had they completed the season.
- d) Requirements for majors in all sports should be comparable.
- e) There will be no automatic awards. They must be earned.
- f) Letters shall have metal inserts representing each sport an athlete has majored in.
- g) A record of awards shall be kept in the Athletic Office.
- h) Only the recipient of an athletic award may wear or be in possession of that award.
- i) There will be special trophy presentations for each sport at the discretion of the head coach and the athletic director.
- j) All equipment must be turned in to be eligible for awards.

## **Section 13) LETTER REQUIREMENTS**

**\*\*\*MINOR will refer to FRESHMAN OR JUNIOR VARSITY participants.**

**ATHLETIC TRAINERS** - Students who work under the supervision of the NHS Certified Athletic Trainer(s) are eligible for letter awards. These students must meet specific requirements to receive their letters (varsity or minor). Expectations include attending practices and games, along with working in the training. These students must also meet all code of conduct rules that apply to NHS ATHLETES. The athletic trainers may use their discretion as to the letter a student trainer will receive based on their degree of participation and time commitment.

### **BASEBALL**

**Varsity Award** - An athlete participating in baseball must meet requirement numbers 1 and 2, and either 3, 4, or 5 below to be eligible to receive a varsity award:

- 1) Must be recommended by the varsity coach to receive a varsity award, and
- 2) Must be a member of the team in good standing at the completion of the season, and
- 3) An infielder or outfielder must appear in at least 75% of all scheduled varsity games.
- 4) A pitcher must appear in at least 25% of all scheduled varsity games.
- 5) Special circumstances will be considered at the coach's discretion.

**Minor Award** - An athlete not eligible for a varsity award shall receive a minor award upon meeting the following requirements:

- 1) Must be a member of either the varsity, junior varsity, or freshman team, and
- 2) Must be recommended by the varsity baseball coach to receive a minor award, and
- 3) Must be a member of the team in good standing at the completion of the season.

### **BASKETBALL**

#### **BOYS - Varsity Award**

1. To earn a varsity award, a player must appear in 20 quarters of competition, or be a member of the team certified for state tournament play. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances are determined by the varsity coach.
2. A manager, to earn a varsity award, must work with the varsity team and remain in good standing during the entire season. Exceptions are determined by the varsity coach.

#### **BOYS - Minor Award**

1. To earn a minor award, a player must be a member in good standing of the freshman and

- junior varsity team for the entire season. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances are determined by the varsity coach.
2. A manager, to earn a minor award, must work with the freshman or junior varsity team and remain in good standing during the entire season. Exceptions are determined by the varsity coach.

### **GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. To earn a varsity award, a player must appear in 20 quarters of competition, and have remained in good standing throughout the season with the administration and coaching staff, or be a member of the team certified for state tournament play. Also, an athlete must remain academically eligible and return all the equipment at end of season. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances are determined by the varsity coach.
2. A manager must work with the varsity team the entire season and remain in good standing during the entire season to earn a varsity award.

### **GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. To earn a minor award, a player must be a member of the freshmen or junior varsity team for the entire season, be academically eligible and return all equipment, and remain in good standing with the administration and coaching staff. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances are determined by the varsity coach.
2. A manager, to earn a minor award, must work with the freshmen or junior varsity team and remain in good standing during the entire season.

## **CHEERLEADING**

### **Varsity Award**

1. Any boy or girl on the varsity squad who fulfills his/her assigned duties shall receive a varsity award. All awards are at the discretion of the sponsor/coach.

### **Minor Award**

1. Any boy or girl on the junior varsity or freshman squad who fulfills his/her assigned duties shall receive a minor award. All awards are at the discretion of the sponsor/coach.
2. Any member of the varsity squad failing to meet the requirements for a varsity award may receive a minor award at the discretion of the coach/sponsor.

## **CROSS COUNTRY**

### **BOYS - Varsity Award**

1. An athlete will receive a varsity award with the coach's recommendation based upon attitude, attendance, return of all equipment, and achieving ONE of the following standards:
  - a. Run at least a 17:50 twice on legitimate courses as approved by the NHS CC staff.
  - b. Run a tournament series; i.e. Conference or IHSAA race.
2. A manager may earn a varsity award by working with the team and remaining in good standing after two seasons.

### **BOYS - Minor Awards**

1. All other participants who do not receive a varsity award will receive a minor award.

### **GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. An athlete will receive a varsity award with the coach's recommendation based upon attitude, attendance, return of all equipment, and the following participation standards:
  - a. Be one of 7 team members of the HCC Conference team and/or County team.
  - b. Be on a state tournament team (12 members of Sectional, Regional, or State team).
  - c. Strong consideration for any athlete that runs 20:25 on a 5000m course approved

by the NHS CC Staff.

- d. Seniors that have participated in two or more seasons

### **GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. All other participants who do not receive a varsity award will receive a minor award.

## **FOOTBALL**

**Varsity Award** - To receive a varsity award, the player must satisfy all of the following requirements:

- a. The athlete must play in one-half of the total varsity quarters or have the recommendation of the coach to receive a varsity award.
- b. The athlete must finish the season in good standing. He must be academically eligible, as well as eligible by training rule standards and complete all end-of-season responsibilities as required by the coach. The season shall consist of all regular season and tournament games.

**Minor Award** – Any player that does not receive a varsity award, will receive a minor award if they satisfy category “b” above.

## **GOLF**

### **BOYS - Varsity Award**

1. To receive a varsity award, an athlete must have participated in half of the varsity golf matches played, unless special considerations exist.
2. With the coach’s recommendation, any player that remains in the program for four years will receive a varsity award.

### **BOYS - Minor Award**

1. All others shall receive a minor award.

### **GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. Varsity awards will be given to any girl who plays in half or more of the varsity golf meets or their equivalent, attends required practices, and completes the season. Equivalent meets are two (2) junior varsity meets for one varsity credit.
2. Any player who plays on the sectional team will receive a varsity award.
3. Any player that remains in the program for all four years will, upon the coach’s recommendation, receive a varsity award.
4. Exceptions for special circumstances will be determined by the varsity coach.

### **GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. Any girl who does not meet the above varsity award requirements, but attends required practices and completes the season, regardless of the number of meets in which they participate, will receive a minor award.

## **GYMNASTICS**

### **Varsity and Minor Awards**

1. A gymnast must participate in a least 50% of the regular season meets to be eligible for a varsity letter. An athlete will receive a varsity award with the coach’s recommendation based upon attitude, attendance, and return of all equipment.
2. All other participants who finish the season in good standing will receive a minor award.

## **DANCE TEAM**

### **Varsity Award**

1. Any participant, who has fulfilled assigned duties and finishes in good standing for two

- years or more on the Varsity team, shall receive a varsity award.
2. Selected by the coaching staff due to unusual circumstances.

### **Minor Award**

1. Any participant who has fulfilled assigned duties and finishes in good standing for one year on the Varsity team shall receive a minor award. In the event of having a Junior Varsity dance team, any participant who fulfills assigned duties and finishes in good standing on the JV team for one or more years shall receive a minor award.
2. All awards are at the discretion of the coach.

## **SOCCKER**

### **BOYS and GIRLS – Varsity Award**

1. Players must display a positive attitude towards sportsmanship in both games and practice.
2. Players must be present or accounted for at all practices and games.
3. Players are to express a willingness to cooperate with their fellow teammates and coach.
4. A player must finish the season in good standing. He/she must be academically eligible and complete all end-of-season responsibilities as required by the coach.
5. A player must play in one-half of the halves of all games, regular season and tournament.
6. Exceptions for special circumstances will be determined by the varsity coach.

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. Any player that participates in the junior varsity schedule exclusively or did not accumulate the required number of varsity halves will receive a minor award.
2. Any player that complied with items #1, 2, 3, and 4 from above varsity award requirements.

## **SOFTBALL**

### **Varsity Award**

1. Appearances in 20% of varsity games.
2. Major contribution that leads to success in conference or sectional.
3. Exceptions for special circumstances will be determined by the varsity coach.

### **Minor Award**

1. Any girl on the junior varsity or freshman team shall receive a minor award.

## **SWIMMING**

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. Participants must have 90% attendance at all meets and practices, average three points per meet, and/or have a swim time during the regular season that is faster than the 12<sup>th</sup> place time in our sectionals from the previous year.
2. Participants must be in good standing with the coaching staff.

### **BOYS and GIRLS- Minor Award**

1. All others will receive a minor award.
2. Exceptions for special circumstances will be determined by the coaching staff.

## **TENNIS**

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. Participants must be in good standing with the coaching staff and participate in 50% of

the varsity contests or meets ONE of the following criteria:

- a. Be a third-year tennis player
- b. Participate in the state tournament series
- c. Be an alternate when Noblesville is a sectional champion
- d. Be on the tennis team when Noblesville is a State Champion
- e. Be selected by the coaching staff due to unusual circumstances

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. All other players who complete the season in good standing will receive a minor award.

## **TRACK**

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Varsity Award**

1. A track athlete will receive a varsity award with the coach's recommendation based upon attitude, attendance, return of all equipment, and achieving a significant performance effort (based upon the sectional standards) and/or achieving point standards.
2. A varsity award will be given based upon achieving one of the following criteria:
  - a) Point Standard - scoring 15 varsity points during the season.
  - b) Sectional Performance Standard - set for each event.
  - c) Conference Meet Scorer - placing in an individual or relay event in the HCC Meet.
3. Managers will receive a varsity award based upon the coach's recommendation.

### **BOYS and GIRLS - Minor Award**

1. An athlete will receive a minor award with the coach's recommendation based upon attitude, attendance, and return of all equipment.

## **VOLLEYBALL**

### **Varsity Award**

1. Any girl who either participates in at least half of the varsity matches or in the coach's opinion makes a significant contribution to the varsity team will be awarded a varsity award.

### **Minor Award**

1. Any girl that is a member of the junior varsity or freshman team will be awarded a minor award, or any girl that does not meet the requirements for the varsity award.

## **WRESTLING**

Any wrestler or wrestling manager will receive a varsity award or minor award (junior varsity) with the coach's recommendation based upon attitude, participation, attendance, return of equipment, academic eligibility, and the following criteria:

### **Varsity Award**

In addition to the above, requirements for a varsity award are:

1. Wrestle in 50% of all varsity meets, and participate in the IHSAA tournament series.
2. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances as determined by the coaching staff.
3. Managers must fulfill assigned duties for the varsity wrestling team and remain in good standing throughout the season.

### **Minor Award**

1. Any wrestler not receiving a varsity award who completes the season in good standing.
2. Exceptions due to unusual circumstances as determined by the coaching staff.



3. Managers must fulfill assigned duties for the junior varsity wrestling team and remain in good standing throughout the season.

#### Section 14) TRANSPORTATION POLICY

The athletic team of which your son/daughter is a member will be making several trips during the course of the competition season. We will be making these trips on a safety-checked bus/van driven by an adult-licensed bus driver (or in the case of the school van, a coach) with coaches on board for supervision. A student-athlete will be required to travel by the school provided transportation both to and from the athletic event.

Student-athletes who have contests or practices at the Hazel Dell Elementary facility must ride the transportation provided by Noblesville Schools to and from the activity on school days. A Parent Release and Permission Form is provided at the back of this handbook. This must be completed by all athletes and their parents and returned to the Athletic Office prior to the first practice.

We realize there will be extenuating circumstances, which may require students to use private vehicles driven by their parents/guardians. **Permission will only be granted upon written request by the parent/guardian using the Travel Release Permission Form provided by the Athletic Office. This form must be completed and on file in the Athletic Office prior to the event, and the coach must receive the original copy from the student. Permission will be granted only for extenuating circumstances.**

#### Section 15) MEDICAL REGULATIONS

Schools are not permitted to administer aspirin or any other type of medication without the written permission of the parent/guardian. You will find the Parental Release and Permission Form as part of RankOne forms. It must be completed by all athletes and their parents and returned to the Athletic Office prior to the first practice.

#### Section 16) INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If school is dismissed early for inclement weather, there will NOT be any athletic activities after school on that day. If school is canceled for the entire day, coaches must ask for approval of the Athletic Director to hold an optional practice. No punitive action may be taken against any player who cannot attend practice on inclement weather days.

#### Section 17) COMMUNICATION

The Noblesville High School Athletic Department supports an open line of communication between coaches, athletes and parents. Each coach is a unique individual and has his/her own style, but they all care about our student-athletes. **When a concern arises with your son/daughter, below is the procedure we support:**

1. **Have your son/daughter speak directly to his/her immediate coach at an appropriate time when the coach is not coaching or teaching.** For example, if your son/daughter is on the freshman baseball team, he/she could speak to the freshman coach after practice.
2. **If a concern still exists, as a parent you should set up a meeting with the coach who works directly with your child.** This should be set up ahead of time with an appointment. Attempting to talk to a coach before or after an athletic event

is **NOT** considered an appropriate time, and the athletic office does not expect our coaches to participate in a meeting with a parent during these times. Confrontations after an event are nonproductive and not acceptable. Talk to coaches at the appropriate time with an appointment scheduled in advance.

3. **If a concern still exists after steps 1 & 2, contact the appropriate athletic director.** Again, schedule an appointment to ensure availability. The athlete, coach, parents(s) and athletic director will meet to resolve the situation.  
**Athletic Office phone number: 317-776-6266**

## **Section 18) CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS AND FANS**

The IHSAA expects each member school to provide a safe environment that promotes good sportsmanship for fans, officials, coaches, and players. At a time when society is experiencing increased incidents of physical confrontations and unmanaged anger associated with sports at all levels, Noblesville High School wishes to keep our athletes, officials, coaches and fans safe by insisting on proper behavior and promoting our positive reputation for good sportsmanship.

We are proud that the majority of our parents and fans set a behavioral example of the highest standard. However, we are forced to address the issue by the few who do not act appropriately.

Noblesville High School will not condone or permit inappropriate behavior directed toward players and school staff, the opposing school, or the game officials. Such behavior can cause the school to suffer severe sanctions from the IHSAA or Hoosier Crossroads Conference, and is embarrassing to our school and community.

NHS supports the IHSAA / conference rules and the emphasis on good sportsmanship. Proper courtesy, behavior and decorum must apply to all situations, and sports are no exception.

Parents and fans need to understand characteristics of the structure of high school athletics and the relationships involved:

1. Participation in high school athletics is a privilege, not a right. Coaches will retain only those players whose skills and attitudes meet the needs of the program, as defined by the coach.
2. The coach alone is responsible for deciding who plays and how much.
3. By allowing one's child to play sports, the parent is, in effect, turning over the child to the coach for the period of time the player is in the sport. The coach will instruct the child and keep the child safe within normally accepted standards.
4. Coaches are professionals and are operating within the best interests of all student-athletes in their charge.
5. It is inappropriate for parents or fans to confront a coach after a practice or event. Parents who have a concern are asked to contact the coach and schedule a meeting at the appropriate time to avoid conflict at a potentially emotional time. If parents cannot reach satisfactory resolution through a meeting with the coach, they may then contact the Athletic Director.
6. Swearing or making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players of either team, or other parents and fans at an athletic event are never acceptable.
7. Attending an athletic event while intoxicated is not acceptable.
8. Being offensive in any other fashion is not acceptable.

Parents and fans that violate any of the above standards of behavior risk sanctions by Noblesville High School including, but not limited to:

- a. A verbal or written warning.
- b. Removal from the contest or premises.

- c. Temporary or permanent banishment from attendance at Noblesville High School athletic events and/or other school functions.
- d. Civil or legal action.

In conclusion, we commend those parents and fans that always exhibit exemplary behavior and serve as positive role models for our student-athletes. We encourage our parents and fans to volunteer, to become involved with our teams, and to be supportive of the attempts of the entire community to educate our youth. By working together, we will establish Noblesville athletics as a first-class program.

**We strive to make good sportsmanship at Noblesville High School an expectation; where the players play, the coaches coach, the officials officiate, and the fans are positive!**

#### **Section 19) EXPECTATIONS OF ATHLETES**

Athletes at Noblesville High School are expected to be positive role models both in and out of school. They are expected to treat authority figures with the respect due them, and to take an active and productive role in the classroom and the community in general. Also, they are expected to live up to all team, department, and school rules and policies. At Noblesville High School, the student-athlete is expected to live up to a higher standard of expectations. We are proud to have students in athletics and hope that everyone's experiences are both enjoyable and rewarding.

#### **Section 20) RISK STATEMENT**

While participating in athletics at Noblesville High School, the student-athlete and his/her parents must be aware of the risks involved in a sport:

Participating in athletics presents a possibility of injury. Most injuries that occur are relatively minor scrapes, scratches, sprains, strains, etc. However, more serious injuries are possible. The more serious injuries could possibly include cuts, muscle tears, tendon or ligament damage, neck and spinal cord injuries, and head injuries. It should be recognized that these conditions may require major surgery, or may result in paralysis or even death. The coaching staff of each sport will teach proper techniques for each skill and provide safe areas for practice and competition. Your awareness is imperative that these injuries are possible and following directions can save your life. Your coaches will provide additional information regarding potentially dangerous activities in their sport.

Starting w/ the 2012-13 school year and according to Indiana State Law "Student Athletes: Concussions and Head Injuries" (IC-20-34-7), **Noblesville High School** is required to distribute information sheets to inform student athletes and their parents of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury to athletes. The *Concussion Acknowledgement and Signature Form for Parents and Student-Athletes* will need to be signed and on file prior to the athlete receiving his/her white card. This form will be available to parents after attending a brief mandatory parent meeting to be informed of the risks.

## Section 21) ANTI-HAZING POLICY

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment that is free from hazing for students and staff members, hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times.

### **General Statement of Policy**

No student, teacher, administrator or other school district employee, contractor or volunteer shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing.

No student, teacher, administrator or other school district employee, contractor or volunteer shall permit, condone or tolerate hazing.

Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act.

This policy applies to hazing behavior that occurs on or off school property and during and after school hours.

### **Definitions**

*Hazing* means committing an act against a student, or coercing a student into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person, in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization, or for any other purpose. The term hazing includes, but is not limited to:

Any type of physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking or placing a harmful substance on the body.

Any type of physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, confinement in a restricted area, calisthenics or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.

Any activity involving the consumption of any alcoholic beverage, drug, tobacco product or any other food, liquid, or substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.

Any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, or that subjects a student to extreme mental stress, embarrassment, shame, or humiliation that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from remaining in school.

Any activity that causes or requires the student to perform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or of school district policies or regulations.

