

2019-2020 Bremen Middle School Athletic Code

SECTION IV - ATHLETICS

Athletics at Bremen Middle School are an integral part of our school program. It is by far the broadest and most comprehensive element of the student activities program. Since student activities are not solely supported by tax dollars, the athletic program is largely financed through gate receipts and athletic concessions. Expenditures for athletics include uniforms, equipment, awards, transportation, officials, and other miscellaneous needs.

Bremen's athletic program provides opportunities for all students to learn and improve their individual skills in a competitive situation to develop physical fitness and desirable habits of health and safety, and to make meaningful friendships through team play. More importantly, athletics help instill the meaning of sportsmanship, responsibility, sacrifice, and respect. Win or lose, a Bremen athlete should represent the school and community in the finest possible manner.

- A. ATTENDANCE:** The athlete must be in attendance at school for at least a half day to participate in practice or contest. A half day is defined as four (4) academic classes (i.e., periods 5-8). If the criteria are not met, the athlete cannot participate in a practice or contest. A student-athlete must be in attendance on a Friday for at least four academic classes to participate in a Saturday contest.
- B. AWARDS:** All students-athletes will earn a participation certificate for successfully completing a season of a sport. In order to successfully complete a season, an athlete must fulfill the guidelines set forth by the coach and participate for the full season. In addition, a Mental Attitude and a Most Improved Award (or coaches' award) are generally granted to the top student-athletes per sport.

Upon completion of the second middle school sport, a student-athlete will receive a green athletic ribbon. Upon completion of the fifth middle school sport, the student-athlete will receive a medallion. The sports that count toward these two awards include middle school cross country, 7/8 football, 7/8 volleyball, 7/8 cheerleading, 7/8 basketball, middle school wrestling, and 7/8 track and field.

- C. CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE:** Bremen athletes are expected to set a positive example of leadership, attitude, cooperation, sportsmanship, and conduct at school, at school activities, at athletic events, and throughout the community. Bremen athletes reflect not only a personal image, but an image of our team, our school, and our community. The coaches will distribute expectations, rules, award policies, etc., to athletes and parents at the start of each season. Coaches may suspend or remove students from the team for a severe violation or repeated violations. Students suspended from school for violating school rules will not be allowed to practice or participate in athletic contests during their suspension. Parents will be notified in writing by the coach and/or athletic director if major disciplinary action is taken.

Any smoking, the use of smoking devices (e-cigarettes, hookah pens, juuls, vaping devices, etc.), the use of alcoholic beverages, and the use of or involvement with illegal drugs is strictly prohibited. These expectations are in effect at all times, not just during a sports season. The following are the minimum disciplinary action for such offenses:

First Offense - Suspension from contest participation for a period of time equal to 50% of the season. If the violation occurs out of season or at a time when the athlete is not participating in sports, the suspension will be effective at the beginning of the next sports season in which he/she does participate. The suspension does not exclude the athlete from practice. It is suggested that the coach require the athlete to practice or to maintain conditioning during the suspension period.

Second Offense - (within one year of the first) Suspension for a full sports season. When the violation occurs during a season, the suspension will cover that season plus the next season in which the athlete had participated during the previous year.

Third Offense - (within one year of the second) Suspension from all athletics seasons for one calendar year from the date of the incident. At the conclusion of track season, all 8th grade athletes will be under the jurisdiction of the high school athletic code.

- D. **COMPLAINT PROCEDURE:** Please talk to the coach first during an appropriate time and in a respectful manner about any complaint(s) concerning athletes. He/she deserves that courtesy and can probably speak on the issue most directly. Should a problem continue to exist, please contact the Bremen Athletic Director.
- E. **ELIGIBILITY:** Extra-curricular activities such as athletics require that students maintain their eligibility in order to participate. Athletics are a privilege and not a right of a student. A student may become ineligible to participate in athletics if:

A parent and physician's certificate is not on file with the Athletic Director.

6th Grade - His/Her 13th birthday occurs before August 15 of that school year.

7th Grade - His/Her 14th birthday occurs before August 15 of that school year.

8th Grade - His/Her 15th birthday occurs before August 15 of that school year.

He/She has been absent five or more days from school due to illness or injury and has not presented to the Bremen Athletic Director a written statement by a physician, licensed to practice medicine in Indiana that he is again physically fit.

A student-athlete conducts himself/herself improperly.

A student-athlete has not maintained *academic eligibility*.

Academic Eligibility Defined: In order to be considered eligible to participate in athletics, a student must receive passing grades in all subjects. Student-athletes, managers, and mat maids will be checked on their academic eligibility status from the start of the competition season until the end of the competition season. Eligibility will be checked each Monday morning. Any student-athlete receiving a failing grade will be given until the following Monday (one week) to bring ALL his/her classes to a passing grade. Those appearing for the second consecutive week are ineligible for contests immediately and until they are no longer listed on subsequent failure reports. **Again, students listed as failing one class or more for a second consecutive week do not participate in contests...no questions asked.** The athlete should not expect papers or makeup tests handed in to be graded and entered into the grade book immediately to make him/her eligible to play. Makeup work should be handed in as early as possible because of the skills gained academically, not to make him/her eligible for team play. It is the primary responsibility of the student-athlete to maintain eligibility status.

- F. **INSURANCE:** Students who participate in the athletic program must be covered by their parent's insurance policy, or student athletes may purchase athletic insurance for a nominal fee from a local insurance company. The school does not carry insurance for its athletes. Insurance forms are available in the office or can be downloaded from the school's athletic website.
- G. **LATE PRACTICES:** If a team is not practicing right after school, athletes are expected to leave the school building at the end of the day and then return for practice unless under the direct supervision of a teacher or coach. Student-athletes are not allowed to be unsupervised in the building after the school day.

- H. PHYSICAL EXAMS & Registration:** All students who are planning to participate as cheerleaders or in athletics must have a physical exam on file at the Bremen Athletic Office and complete the online registration at bremenathletics.com each sports season. **Physicals are only good through the current school year and need to be updated after April 1st.** Physicals must be on the IHSAA physical forms. You may pick up a form from the Bremen Athletic Office or downloaded from the school's athletic website.
- I. SCHOOL-ISSUED DEVICES:** Laptops and iPads should remain in students' school lockers during home games and practices. Student-athletes not returning to school after an away contest should bring their devices with them and hand them over to a parent or guardian for secure keeping. Otherwise, student-athletes should leave their devices in their school lockers until returning to school from an away contest. Coaches should allow student-athletes to return to their school lockers to retrieve their devices upon returning to BEMS.
- J. TICKET INFORMATION:** The single-session ticket price for all middle school girls and boys athletic contests will be \$3.00 excluding tournaments. All Sports Passes are also available for sale and provide admission to athletic contests for the entire school year.
- K. TRANSPORTATION:** School buses transport students to and from away athletic events. Behavior of athletes must adhere to the strict standards required of Bremen Elementary-Middle School students. Athletes will be loaded and unloaded at the front of Bremen Elementary-Middle School unless otherwise indicated. Student-athletes are required to ride the school bus to away contests. It is recommended that student-athletes ride the school bus home from away contests. Parents are allowed to drive their own child home from an away event with a written note to the coach or by signing out with the coach. A parent may take the responsibility of transporting another child home from an away event provided that the coach is given a signed note from that child's parent / guardian.
- L. WEDNESDAY PRACTICES:** Athletic practices on Wednesdays begin at 4:00 P.M. to allow academic teams and clubs/organizations to meet from 3:15 – 4:00 P.M. Athletes not on an academic team are expected to leave the building at the end of the school day and return for practice at 4:00 P.M.
- M. DIRECTIONS TO AREA SCHOOLS:**
- **Argos:** US 6 West to US 31 South. Travel south approx. 15 miles, turn left on Indiana Ave. for ½ mile, and turn left on Clinton St. Clinton Streets turns right and become W. Plum Street. Turn left on Yearick. (500 Yearick Drive, Argos, IN 46501)
 - **Bethany Christian:** US 6 East approx. 15 miles to State Road 15. Turn left (north) on 15 and travel approximately 6.5 miles. The school will be on the right. (2904 S. Main St., Goshen, IN 46526)
 - **Culver:** US 31 South to IN 10 (At Argos McDonald's). Turn right (west) on IN-10 approx. 18 miles. Turn left on School Street; go past the high school approx. 3 blocks, elementary school sets on the right. (Inside sports are played at the elementary school, outside sports behind the high school).
 - **Edgewood (Warsaw):** 331 South approx. 10 miles, East on US 30 approx. 14 miles to State Road 15. Follow SR 15 South approx. 2 miles, turn right on East Winona Ave. Take third left on S. Buffalo St. ½ mile, slight right on Fisher, slight right onto Kincaid Street. Take first right on S. Union St. (900 S. Union St., Warsaw, IN 46580)
 - **Fairfield:** US 6 East 15 miles then left on IN-15 for approx. 7 miles. Turn right on CR 38/E. Kercher Road for approx. 2 miles, then right on Lincolnway E for ½ mile. (67530 US 33, Goshen, IN 46526)
 - **Jimtown:** 331 North approx. 12 miles to US 20 Bypass. Go east on US 20 approx. 9 miles. Exit on IN-19 South. Turn right on CR 26, then 1st right on CR 22 and then right on CR 3. (58903 CR 3 S, Elkhart, IN 46517)

- **John Young MS (Mishawaka):** Cross country meets are held at Wilson Park. Take SR 331 North approx. 13 miles. Turn right on Dragoon Trail for approx. 1.3 miles. (Wilson Park, Mishawaka, IN)
- **Knox:** US 6 West to US 31 South to US 30 West. Travel approx. 9 miles and turn left on IN-23 S. Follow IN-23 S approx. 6 miles, turn right on IN-8 W/E 100 S approx. 5 miles. (901 S. Main St., Knox, IN 46534)
- **Lakeview (Warsaw):** US 30 East to IN-15. Follow IN-15 South 2 miles, go left on E. Winona Ave. Take 3rd right on to S. Wood St. Turn left on E. Smith St. School is on the right. (848 E. Smith St., Warsaw, IN 46580)
- **LaVille:** US 6 West to US 31. Turn right and travel north approx. 2 miles to the flashing light. School is on the left. (69969 US 31 S, Lakeville, IN 46536)
- **Lincoln (Plymouth):** US 6 west to US 31 South. Take exit into Plymouth merging onto Michigan Road for approx. 5.9 miles. Turn left on Jefferson St. approx. 1/3 mile. Turn right on Liberty Street. (220 N. Liberty St., Plymouth, IN 46563)
- **Mentone:** SR 331 South approx. 19 miles. Turn left on IN-25 approx. 4.3 miles into Mentone. Turn right on Harvard St. (301 E. Jackson, Mentone, IN 46539)
- **Milford:** US 6 East approx. 15 miles to IN-15. Go South on IN-15 approx. 2.9 miles. Turn right on West Emeline St. Travel approx. 2 blocks and school is on the right. (611 W. Emeline St, Milford, IN 46542)
- **New Prairie:** North on 331 to US 20 West. Travel on US 20W for approx. 9.9 miles to IN- 2 West. Go approx. 12 miles to N 700 E/N. Cougar Road, turn right and go approx. 1 mile. (5331 N. Cougar Rd., New Carlisle, IN 46552)
- **North Liberty Elementary:** US 6 West to US 31. Travel north approx. 5.9 miles, turn left on Pierce Rd/SR 4 and go approx. 4.8 miles. Turn right on S. Washington St., turn left on E. Market St., and turn right on School Drive. (400 School Drive, North Liberty, IN 46554)
- **Northwood Middle School:** Take 331 North approx. 5.5 miles, turn right on Pierce Road. Travel 5.5 miles on Pierce (Pierce becomes CR 40 and then West Waterford St.) Turn left on CR 3/N. Elkhart St. (301 N. Elkhart St., Wakarusa, IN 46573)
- **Oregon-Davis:** West on US 30 approx. 21.5 miles, turn right on N 750 E. Go 3/4 mile. (5590 N 750 E, Hamlet, IN 46532)
- **Riverside Elementary (Plymouth):** US 6 west to US 31 South. Take exit into Plymouth merging onto Michigan Road for approx. 5.9 miles. Turn left on Baker St. approx. 3/4 mile. (905E. Baker St., Plymouth, IN 46563)
- **Rochester:** US 31 South. Turn left on Sweetgum Road. Take 3rd right onto Division Line Rd/W 18th St/IN-14. Take 1st left onto S. Park Road. Take 1st right onto Zebra Lane. (650 Zebra Lane, Rochester, IN 46975)
- **Tippy Valley:** SR 331 South approx. 19 miles. Turn left on IN-25 into Mentone. Turn right on IN-19 S/S. Franklin St. approx. 4 miles. Turn right on W 800 S. (11303 W 800 S, Akron, IN 46910)
- **Triton:** Take 331 South approx. 10 miles. Turn left on Shaffer Road, then right on Triton Drive. (300 Triton Drive, Bourbon, IN 46504)
- **Urey:** US 6 West approx. 16 miles to Walkerton. Turn left on Washington Street. School is on the left. (407 Washington St, Walkerton, IN 46574) Football and track are held at John Glenn High School: US 6 West approx 15 miles, turn left on John Glenn drive. School is on the left.)
- **Walkerton Elementary:** US 6 West approx. 15 miles, turn left on Indiana St., then left on Washington. (805 Washington St., Walkerton, IN 46574)
- **Wawasee Middle School:** US 6 East for 20 miles, right on IN-13S. Travel south 6.8 miles to school. (9850 N SR 13, Syracuse, IN 46567)
- **West Noble:** US 6 east approximately 30 miles to Ligonier. Turn right (south) onto US 33 / IN 5 approximately 2 miles. School is on the left. (5194 N Us Highway 33, Ligonier, IN 46767).