

Wayland Union Schools Middle/High School Athletic Handbook

2017-2018

Philosophy of Athletics

Athletics are part of the total educational program of the Wayland Union Schools. We realize not everyone can be a team member, but we do realize everyone can benefit from the program. The criterion upon which our program is judged is as follows:

1. Interscholastic participation is a privilege, not a right.
2. Participation in interscholastic athletics is for those that have physical skills appropriate for the respective sport.
3. Success of the program is not solely determined by the won and loss record.
4. School and community values should be evident throughout the program.
5. The school community is identified by the publicity generated through its athletic program.
6. The coaching staff, athletes, student body, and adult followers should never act in a manner that would be detrimental to the name of Wayland Union Schools.
7. The student's athletic experience should be fun.

Philosophy of Winning

Middle School

Participation in middle school athletics is an introduction of interscholastic sports to student athletes. Recognizing that a strong middle school athletic program is the foundation of a successful high school program, middle school athletic participation should be encouraged by providing as many students as possible with an opportunity to learn the skill and physical requirements necessary for athletic competition. Playing time is guaranteed to all members of a team during each contest, but not equally.

Freshman Athletics

The Wayland athletic program will continue to teach and begins here to instill pride in the Wildcat tradition, focusing on teamwork, character building, spirit building, participation, time management, competition, building fundamental motor skills and good sportsmanship. The goal is to provide student athletes with the tools necessary in all areas of life as to build a solid foundation of the high school program. Every attempt will be made to provide playing time to each athlete during each contest, but not equally. Freshman athletics begins to instill a winning attitude.

Junior Varsity Athletics (includes freshman and sophomore athletes)

Building on what is learned at the freshman level, the focus of Wayland's JV program is to prepare and develop athletes for varsity competition. The level of intensity on the practice field as well as in competition will increase, as should the commitment to the sport by the student athlete. Every effort will be made to provide quality game time during a season to all athletes who demonstrate a strong work ethic and efforts to improve, but playing time does not have to be equal.

Varsity Athletics (Open to all Wayland students)

To be chosen to represent Wayland as a varsity athlete is a privilege and an honor that is earned through hard work, effort and commitment to a sport. The best athletes within Wayland, regardless of class level, can make the varsity team. At this level, no one is guaranteed playing time as the best athletes should be on the field/court/mat/course when the skills and intensity of competition requires the best.

All student athletes should be committed and focused at all practices and events, exhibit the highest skill level, demonstrate good sportsmanship on the field of competition as well as off, and be excellent role models of the Wildcat tradition. Students who participate are expected to represent the highest ideals of character by exemplifying good conduct and good citizenship on and off the playing field/court/mat/course.

Objectives of Athletics

An athletic program should have objectives if it is to be meaningful. These objectives should be applicable for all levels. The objectives should be consistent with its philosophy and the educational objectives of Wayland Union Schools.

The Wayland Union Schools Athletic Program is dedicated to the following objectives within means available:

1. Provide all athletes with the best teaching and coaching personnel possible.
2. Provide all athletes with the best facilities and equipment possible.
3. Provide the opportunity for all athletes to participate in the best interscholastic program possible.
4. Provide all spectators an opportunity to identify with and support the interscholastic teams of Wayland Union Schools.
5. Provide all athletes an opportunity to grow physically and emotionally through participation in the athletic program.

The Goals of Athletic Participation

The ultimate goal of every athlete is to become a more effective citizen in our democratic society. This can be realized by achieving the goals through athletic participation.

1. **YOU LEARN TEAMWORK**—To work with others in a democratic society a person must develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and

- the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. You accomplish this by placing the team and its objectives higher than your personal desires.
2. **YOU LEARN TO BE SUCCESSFUL**—Our society is very competitive. You will NOT ALWAYS WIN, but you WILL SUCCEED WHEN YOU CONTINUALLY STRIVE to do so.
 3. **YOU LEARN TO BE A GOOD SPORT**—You must learn to humbly accept success. You must also learn to accept defeat knowing that you've done your best. You must constantly strive to treat others, as you would have them treat you. Through participation in athletics you must develop positive social traits. Some of these traits worth mentioning are: emotional control, honesty, cooperativeness, and dependability.
 4. **YOU LEARN TO ENJOY ATHLETICS**—Athletes are involved in athletics for many reasons, including the enjoyment derived from participating. It is hoped that you will learn to enjoy this period in your life and appreciate your personal rewards.
 5. **YOU MUST LEARN DESIRABLE HEALTH HABITS**—To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain and maintain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits. Your participation in athletics should demonstrate to you the importance of good health habits. It is hoped that you will have developed a desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

Sportsmanship

It is important to both our school and our community that Wayland Union schools athletic teams and spectators (adults as well as students) show sportsmanship at all times. Please review the following suggestions for future considerations.

1. A student spectator represents his/her school the same as the athlete.
2. The good name of the school is more valuable than any game won by unfair play.
3. Recognize and show appreciation for fine play or good sportsmanship on the part of the opponent.
4. Accept decisions of officials without dispute.
5. Advocate that any spectator or athlete who continually demonstrates poor sportsmanship be excused from the athletic contest or program.

Conduct of an Athlete

The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in the following areas at all times:

1. Students and parents are reminded that the school rules and regulations as set forth in the student handbook are the basis for dealing with all student-related matters. The Athletic code of Conducts to be viewed as an addition to the high school handbook and is intended to deal with the behavior and conduct of the student athlete in non-school related settings.
2. On the field of competition, your conduct should be beyond reproach at all times.

3. In the classroom the good athlete becomes the good student. A person can't be lazy in the classroom and think he can be an outstanding athlete. If one is lazy in the classroom, then one will be lazy on the practice field.
4. The way we act and look on campus is of great importance. Athletes should be leaders and fellow students should respect and follow their example.
5. The use of school equipment is important. We are committed to purchasing the best at all times. If you destroy or steal equipment, then you are taking from yourself and teammates. Each athlete is financially responsible for all equipment checked out.
6. Any athlete removed from a team for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to try out for another team during the same season. (Example: wrestling to basketball).
7. Any athlete removed from a team for disciplinary reason(s) is not eligible to join another team during the same season.
8. All Wayland athletes should refrain from keeping late hours. Keeping late hours can hinder athletic performance and put a drain on mental and physical energy.

Being an athlete carries with it a great responsibility. Not everyone is fortunate enough to have this opportunity in his/her life to participate in athletics. Since you are afforded this opportunity, you will be expected to observe these guidelines while participating in our athletic programs.

General Information

1. There may be occasions when you will have a conflict of responsibilities. We suggest the following set of value to aid you in determining your prime responsibilities.
 - A. Home and church responsibilities
 - B. Academic responsibilities
 - C. Athletic responsibilities
 - D. All other social and school responsibilities
2. An athlete may win one (1) varsity letter, junior varsity letter, and set of numerals, in his/her high school career.
 - A. Should an athlete earn more than one letter, he/she will be given a certificate or pin designed for that purpose.
3. Athletes who have not turned all equipment in from one sport will not be eligible for any future sports participation, either practice or games, until the equipment has been accounted for or the school district reimbursed.
4. To participate in an athletic contests and practices, an athlete must be in school the last two school hours of the day (ie. All of 5th and 6th hour). This includes half days of school.
5. Students who have been suspended from school or placed on in-house suspension for disciplinary reasons (example: skipping school, fighting, smoking, etc.) are not to practice or participate in athletic competition of any kind until they are reinstated in school.
6. No student may practice or participate on any athletic team without a physical and a signed athletic permission form on file in the high school office. When a student voluntarily participates in interscholastic athletics, he/she agrees to abide by the Wayland Union Middle School or

Wayland Union High School Athletic Code throughout his/her athletic career. A Student may neither attend tryouts nor practice with a team until he/she has submitted a signed acknowledgement form agreeing to abide by the Athletic Code (this is done on the front page of the physical form). This athletic Code applies to candidates, members, and managers of all athletic teams.

7. A student must pass four classes and maintain a “C-“average on an eleven (11) point scale to be eligible for athletics. A student taking **six** classes must total at least **24** points to remain eligible. If a student is deemed ineligible they will sit out the following week (A week will be defined as Sunday to Sunday). Ineligible High School students grades will then be rechecked one week later to determine if the student athlete is meeting the minimum standard to become eligible.

*Grades are checked every two weeks at the high school and each week at the Middle School because the short length of the middle school sports seasons.

A	=	11	C	=	5
A-	=	10	C-	=	4
B+	=	9	D+	=	3
B	=	8	D	=	2
B-	=	7	D-	=	1
C+	=	6	E	=	0

8. According to MHSAA guidelines, a student who fails to pass the equivalent of 66% of a full time student’s potential class load at the end of any trimester period may not be eligible for 60 school days. Middle School students must pass 50% of a full time student’s potential class load to remain eligible at the end of a trimester.
9. When an athlete is injured requiring medical attention, a signed statement from the doctor must be presented to the Athletic Director allowing the athlete to return to participation.
10. Athletes may participate in 2 sports per season with permission from parents, coaches and administrators. Athletes must contact the athletic department for forms and more information. Academic performance will be evaluated weekly to determine the athlete’s eligibility.

Summary of Eligibility for Senior High School Students and Middle School Students

1. Enrollment – Have been enrolled in high school by the fourth (4th) Friday after labor Day (1st semester) or the fourth (4th) Friday of February (2nd semester).
2. Age –
 - High School - Be under nineteen (19) years of age at time of contest unless nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year, in which case student is eligible for balance of that school year in all sports.
 - 8th Grade – To compete on a team limited to 8th graders an 8th grader must be under fifteen (15) years of age at time of contest unless fifteenth (15) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a

current school year, in which case student is eligible for balance of that school year in all sports

7th Grade - To compete on a team limited to 7th graders an 7th grader must be under fourteen (14) years of age at time of contest unless fourteenth (14) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year, in which case student is eligible for balance of that school year in all sports

3. Physical Examination – Prior to participation in a tryout or practice every student must submit a statement from an MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner or Physicians Assistant that they are physically able to compete in athletic tryouts, practices and contests and also provide consent to information otherwise prohibited by HIPPA and FERPA laws. These statements must be on file in the appropriate school office and must be for the current school year, not necessarily in conjunction with the insurance year. The earliest date that a physical can be dated for use in the coming school year is April 15. This allows the school sports physical to also be used for summer activities.
4. Seasons of Competition – (High School) Have not more than the equivalent of four (4) first trimester, four (4) second trimester and four (4) third trimester seasons of competition in a four (4) year high school including present season. When two seasons leading to a state championship in the same sport are offered, an athlete may participate in only one.
5. Trimester of Enrollment – (High School) Not have been enrolled for more than the equivalent of twelve (12) trimesters in grades nine to twelve (9-12), inclusive. The equivalent of eleven and twelve (11 and 12) trimesters must be consecutive. Three weeks enrollment or participation in one (1) or more athletic contests constitutes a trimester of enrollment.
6. Undergraduate Standing – Not be a high school graduate.
7. Previous Trimester Record – Have passed at least 66% (High School) and 50% (Middle School) for work taken during the previous trimester of enrollment.
 - High School - passes a minimum of four (4) classes and maintained a “C-“average.
 - Middle School - passes a minimum of three (3) classes and maintained a “C-“average.
8. Current Trimester Record – Be carrying and doing passing work in at 66% of classes during the present trimester up to within seven (7) days of the contest.
 - High School - passes a minimum of four (4) classes and maintained a “C-“average.
 - Middle School - passes a minimum of four (4) classes and maintained a “C-“average.
9. Transfers – A student enrolled in grades 9-12, who changes schools is not immediately eligible in the new school UNLESS they meet one of 15 exceptions and fall within one or more of 33 interpretations. When a student who does not meet an exception becomes eligible depends on when the student enrolled in the new school. If a student changes school

before the 4th Friday after Labor Day, they are eligible on Dr. Martin Luther King Day, if they change schools after that but before the 4th Friday of February they are eligible on August 1 to start fall sports.

10. Awards – Must not have accepted any award or merchandise exceeding \$25.00 in value for athletic performance. Athletes accepting cash merchandise certificates or negotiable certificates are in violation.
11. Amateur Practices – Not have accepted money, or other valuable considerations in excess of \$25.00 from any source for participating in any form of athletics, sports, or games, or for officiating interscholastic athletic contests unless registered as a participant of the LEGACY program sponsored by the M.H.S.A.A., or have signed a professional athletic contract. Reinstatement will not be considered for one (1) year.
12. Limited Team Membership – Not have participated in any outside competition in a sport during the season after the athlete has represented his or her school in that sport except individual sports meets or contests. Not have participated in a so-called all-star, charity, or exhibition contest during the school year.
13. When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for at least the next contest (1-day of competition) for that team. Disqualifications (meaning the athlete must in attendance but cannot participate) for one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates or the next season in any sport for seniors. (MHSAA regulations)

SUMMER DEAD PERIOD

The summer dead period is a period of seven full consecutive calendar days after school is out in June and after a school's participation in MHSAA tournaments is completed. This year the summer Dead Period is June 29th-July 5th. During the dead period, there is no involvement or contact by the school or coach with students in grades 7-12 in any MHSAA tournament sport. It is a zero coach-player period; at school or elsewhere. There are to be no school or coach conducted open gyms, conditioning or weight lifting programs on school premises or sponsored by the school or coach at other facilities. The Representative Council adopted the following to further clarify the intent of the summer dead period: The Summer Dead Period is intended to provide at least seven consecutive days when school coaches will have no contact with students in grades 7-12 of the school district in any manner related to any sport sponsored by that school. Unplanned, casual, normal community contact is permitted. The Summer Dead Period applies to all levels of MHSAA member schools; coaches and students in grades 7-12 except that non- school summer baseball and softball practices and competitions regularly scheduled throughout the summer may continue with school coaches and students from the same district (e.g. American Legion) It is intended that no sport-related involvement, including attendance at school sport-related fundraisers and functions, take place during the Summer Dead Period. It is intended that no sport activities occur on school premises during the Summer Dead Period that involve school coaches or are sponsored by the school or supported by the school. Because school personnel are prohibited from holding such activities, it is

intended that no school facilities be planned for use by non school groups or individuals for athletic purposes (including student-led practices or conditioning) during the Summer Dead Period.

PRE-SEASON DOWN TIME

The preseason down time specifies for no open gyms for a period of six to 14 days prior to the start of each season. Mainly, it's designed for from Aug. 1 to the start of fall sports practices, 14 calendar days before winter sports start, and from March 1 until the beginning of spring sports.

TRAINING RULES

Students shall be regarded to be under the rules of the Athletic Code beginning with their first day of participation in interscholastic athletics and continuing through to their date of graduation or the last date of participation whichever is later. This includes vacation breaks, summer recess, and off-season times. The participation is always under the student athletic code from the beginning to the end of their athletic career.

Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Policy

Tobacco/E-Cigarette/Electronic Delivery Devices

1. All Wayland athletes are to refrain from use of tobacco in any form, possession of tobacco in any form, and paraphernalia for the use of tobacco.
 - A. Use of tobacco has been proven to be hazardous to health.
 - B. Use of tobacco may hinder athletic performance.
 - C. Use of tobacco by minors is illegal.

Alcohol

1. All Wayland athletes are to refrain from use of or possession of alcoholic beverages in any form.
 - A. Use of alcohol may hinder athletic performance.
 - B. Use of alcohol by minors is illegal.

Drugs

1. All Wayland athletes are to refrain from use of drugs, possession of drugs, and use of or possession of paraphernalia for the use of drugs.
 - A. Continuous use of drugs may lead to addiction.
 - B. The use of many drugs is illegal.
 - C. The use of mind-altering drugs violates the spirit of amateur athletics and athletic performance. A drug violation is defined as:
 - i. all dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Michigan statute;
 - ii. all chemicals which release toxic vapors;

- iii. any prescription medication or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy;
- iv. “look-alikes”;
- v. anabolic steroid and performance enhancing drugs;
- vi. any other illegal substances so designated and prohibited by law.

TRAINING VIOLATION CHART

<u>Offense</u>	1 st Career Offense	2 nd Career Offense	3 rd Career Offense
TOBACCO	50%	One Calendar Year	Permanently suspended from athletic participation*
ALCOHOL	50%	One Calendar Year	
DRUGS	50%	One Calendar Year	

1. **A First** - violation of training rules is a 50 % of a season suspension. The student athlete may enter into a diversion program and have their **first offense** reduced to 25%. This program will only be accepted on the first training offense. The student must also complete a paper explaining what they learned in the diversion program and how they will use that information going forward before returning to play.
2. **A Second** - training violation is a 365 day suspension. **AUTOMATIC REINSTATEMENT IF THERE ARE NO FURTHER VIOLATIONS DURING THE SUPSPENSION**
3. **A third** - training violation is a permanent suspension from athletic participation. An athlete may request reinstatement after being permanently suspended (3rd offense) from all athletic participation after a period of 365 days. (See Section Appeal Process)

Suspension Stipulation

1. If a student athlete is academically ineligible during his/her suspension, the disciplinary action does not begin until they are deemed eligible.
2. If a student athlete is participating in two (2) sports during one season, the disciplinary action will affect both sports.
3. There is only one first/second/third career training offense, whether it is tobacco, alcohol or drugs. There is not one of each.
4. Any athlete who has violated training rules must continue to practice with his/her team unless they are suspended in or out of school. Athletes are also to be in attendance at all contests as a spectator on the bench (must not be in uniform).
5. If the total contest dates for suspension cannot be fulfilled in the current athletic season, the suspensions will carry-over to the next sport in which the athlete participates in.
 - a. **(Example: An athlete who is suspended for drinking after the 8th football contest date would miss one (1) football contest date which is 10% of the football schedule. He/she would also miss**

eight (8) basketball contest dates – if he or she would be a team member – which is 40% of the basketball schedule. (10% + 40% = 50%).

6. The number of contest dates to be missed by an athlete in violation of training rules is calculated by taking the number of contest dates or meets scheduled and multiplying by the percentage factor of the violation. Calculations which end in .4 or below are rounded down, .5 are rounded up.

Appeal Process

An athlete may request reinstatement after being permanently suspended (3rd offense) from all athletic participation after a period of 365 days.

1. Request for reinstatement shall be made in writing to the athletic director.
2. The athletic director shall solicit comment from the teaching staff, coaching staff, and administration who may comment either favorably or unfavorably regarding reinstatement.
3. The athletic director shall then either reinstate the athlete or decline reinstatement within ten school days of the request for reinstatement.
4. If reinstatement is denied, an appeal may be made by the athlete to the standing athletic committee. The standing athletic committee consisting of three school board members will be appointed by the school board president.

Reinstatement will be denied if the athlete has not demonstrated an ability to comply with the athletic code of conduct during the suspension period. If reinstatement is denied, the athlete may again apply for reinstatement after a period of 180 days from the date of the last application for reinstatement

Conduct of Athletes

A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulation and standards of the athletic department. All student athletes shall abide by a code of ethics, which will earn them the honor and respect for their participation that competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the student athlete, the team or the school is not acceptable. Acts of unacceptable conduct such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, breaking and entering, hazing, cheating, disrespect, immorality, sexual harassment or violation of law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic programs. The coach, athletic director and principal are charged with assuring compliance with the Athletic Code of Conduct. Penalties for noncompliance will be fairly and firmly levied and administered by the athletic director and/or principal.

Pursuant to Wayland Union School District Board of Education policy #5500, each student is responsible for his or her conduct in school, on school vehicles, and at school-related events.

1. Students and parents are reminded that the school rules and regulations as set forth in the student handbook are the basis for dealing with all student related matters. The Athletic Code of Conduct is to be viewed as an addition to the middle school handbook and is intended to deal with the behavior and

conduct of the student athlete. Through your participation in athletics, you will be required to abide by the rules and regulations outlined in BOTH the Wayland Union Middle School Student Handbook as well as the rules and regulations outlined in the Wayland Union High School Athletic Handbook. Thus, you are open to disciplinary action under both said handbooks.

Conduct Unbecoming an Athlete (ie. Theft, insubordination, truancy, weapons violation, trouble with the law, fighting, plagiarism, inappropriate social media posts, or anything that would negatively represent the individual, team and/or school.) The penalties will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director, based on the severity of the violation. Each additional violation will result in a progressive punishment

1. Discipline for this violation will rest in the hands of the PRINCIPALS and the ATHLETIC DIRECTOR.
2. If the athlete wishes to appeal a decision, he/she may appeal to the STANDING ATHLETIC COMMITTEE*.

These rules are in effect 365 days a year.

* THE STANDING ATHLETIC COMMITTEE will be comprised of three school board members appointed by the school board president.

Training and Disciplinary Violation Procedure

1. School employees such as school board members, administration, teachers and coaches, who witness an offense, shall have power to inform the athletic director in writing so that disciplinary action in accordance with the established procedure can take place on the violation. Police notification, police reports, and court records may also be utilized.
2. All acts of violation of training rules and disciplinary action shall be given to the athletic director in writing and dated by the person witnessing the violation. Violations must be reported to the athletic director within 30 days after the violation occurs and all penalties served within 365 days of the reported date or the penalty is dropped. The athletic director will then have 30 days to act following notification. The order of appeal for disciplinary action will be as follows: athletic director, standing athletic committee.
3. Court convictions for violations of the training rules and conduct not becoming an athlete will serve as justification for suspension in accordance with the athletic handbook. The athletic director will have 30 days after publication of the court notice to act.
4. The standing athletic committee reserves the right to review the record of any athlete who consistently violates training rules for more drastic and far-reaching disciplinary action. Also, the standing athletic committee has the right to overrule any coaches' disciplinary decisions, which the standing athletic committee feels is not in keeping with amateur athletics.
5. The standing athletic committee has power of suspension for reasons other than above training rules.

All training rule violations must be served as consecutive athletic contests, which will include any and all post season competition as defined in Regulation 1, Section 12, of the MHSAA Handbook.

Athletic Insurance

Wayland Union Schools does not assume financial responsibility for medical, hospital, or ambulance expense incurred because of athletic injuries. Athletics is a voluntary program in which students may participate at their own risk.

A signed athletic permission form and physical permission form indicating your insurance coverage must be returned to the main office before your son/daughter may begin participation. Insurance coverage became mandatory beginning with the 1986-87 school year. If you do not have insurance coverage insurance may be purchased in the high school main office.

Potential Dangers in Athletic Participation

Parents and student athletes should fully understand and appreciate the risk of serious personal injury associated with participation in the educational sports program provided by Wayland Union Schools. Participation in school athletics involves flying objects; swift movement of bodies which many times are airborne, and unavoidable collisions.

Athletic activities are hazardous and taking part in such activities is calculate risk-taking on the part of the student athlete and parents. It is also understandable that too many young adults, the potential benefits exceed participation a stimulating adventure and satisfies the student athlete's desire for competition, strenuous effort, and creative activity. Reducing injuries to a minimum without subtracting from this adventure is a continuous goal of the coaching and administrative staff.

Rules of Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Extra Curricular Events

Students are encouraged to attend games, cheer, clap and otherwise encourage participants. Support, however, must be exhibited in a sportsmanlike manner. Students who behave in an unsportsmanlike manner may be denied admission to school events for up to a year in addition to any other penalty prescribed by the student conduct code.

Any fan, including adult fans, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner during athletic or extra curricular events may be denied admission to school events.

We have determined some behaviors that are deemed acceptable and unacceptable. This is definitely not an all-inclusive list. Common sense must also prevail in sportsmanlike behavior.

Acceptable Behavior:

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials.
- Accept all decisions by officials.

- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive yells in a positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize outstanding performance.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performance of all participants.
- Everyone sharing concern for an injured player, regardless of the team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior:

- Taunting, trash talk and other intimidating actions.
- Disrespectable or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Booing or heckling of officials decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an officials call.
- Yells that antagonize opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition of good performances.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away for the game.
- Wearing extreme/unusual clothing or excessive face or body painting, which detracts from the action on the playing surface.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Social media should not be used to express or address concerns about coaches' decisions.
4. Specific concerns regarding a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your children become involved in the Wayland Athletic program, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of others position.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgement decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved.

While there are certain things, which can and should be discussed with your child's coach, there are also things, which must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches

1. Playing time.
2. Strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other student-athletes.

When parent-coach conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure you should follow...

1. Please wait 24 hours. Call the high school to set up an appointment with the coach.
2. The Wayland High School telephone number is 792-2254.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, 792-2254 ext. 1012. They will set up the meeting for you.
4. Please **DO NOT** attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

The Next Step

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director at 792-2254 ext. 1012 to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Failure to adhere to any of the above may lead to exclusion from attendance of athletic events.

MODEL POLICY FOR MANAGING HEAT AND HUMIDTY
MHSAA Handbook

As a precursor to the requirement that all MHSAA member schools adopt a policy to minimize the risk of heat-related illness in interscholastic athletic programs, the following MHSAA “Model Policy” is proposed for adoption by the Representative Council on March 22, 2013

If the Heat Index is below 95 degrees:

- Provide ample amounts of water. This means that water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire.
- Optional water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration.
- Ice-down towels for cooling
- Watch/Monitor athletes carefully for necessary action

If Heat Index is 95 to 99 degrees:

- Provide ample amounts of water. This means that water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire.
- Optional water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration.
- Ice-down towels for cooling
- Watch/Monitor athletes carefully for necessary action

- Contact sports and activities with additional equipment:

- Helmets’ and other possible equipment removed while not involved in contact

- Reduce time of outside activity. Consider postponing practice to later in the day.

- Recheck temperature and humidity every 30 minutes to monitor for increased Heat Index

If the Heat Index is above 99 degrees to 104 degrees:

- Provide ample amounts of water. This means that water should always be available and athletes should be able to take in as much water as they desire.
- Optional water breaks every 30 minutes for 10 minutes in duration.
- Ice-down towels for cooling
- Watch/Monitor athletes carefully for necessary action
- Alter uniform by removing items if possible
- Allow for changes to dry t-shirts and shorts
- Reduce time of outside activity as well as indoor activity if air conditioning is unavailable.
- Postpone practice to later in the day.
- Contact sports and activities with additional equipment:

- Helmets’ and other possible equipment removed while not involved in contact

- Reduce time of outside activity. Consider postponing practice to later in the day.

- Recheck temperature and humidity every 30 minutes to monitor for increased Heat Index

If the Heat Index is above 104 degrees:

- Stop all activity in practice and/or play, and stop all inside activity if air conditioning is unavailable.

**MHSAA PROTOCOL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL
FEDERATION SPORTS PLAYING RULES FOR CONCUSSIONS**

“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional.”

Participation in such athletics is purely voluntary; such activities involve physical exertion and contact and that there is inherent risk of personal injury associated with participation.