

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

IGDJ

The interscholastic athletics program in the School District of Neillsville is considered an extension of the total educational program and as such is expected to contribute to the attainment of educational objectives.

In addition to providing the means for fulfilling a student's need for participation in individual and group games, it is felt that participation in the athletics program will contribute to the development of good health and good health habits, self-reliance, emotional maturity, social development, team work, and good sportsmanship.

Since the welfare of the team depends upon collective efforts and self-sacrifices made by its individual members and since the athlete is in the public eye and his/her conduct reflects upon his/her school, team and coach, it follows that he/she may be denied the privilege of participation in these voluntary activities if he/she fails to abide by a reasonable athletic training policy. Student athletes who violate the athletic training policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. Athletes and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) will be afforded "due process" under the provisions in the athletic training policy. The athlete and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) are expected to follow the proper "due process" procedures.

Any coach, professional staff member, administrator, or adult member of the community who becomes aware of a possible infraction of the athletic training policy is expected to report the infraction to the athletic director. Upon receiving a validated report, the administration shall investigate the charge. It is expected that any athlete who violates the athletic training policy will knowingly and willingly refer the violation to the athletic director.

The administration shall assign advisors for supervision of all extra-curricular activities.

The Neillsville High School is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and all high school athletes shall be bound by WIAA rules.

The Neillsville Middle School is not a member of the WIAA, however, the middle school athletes shall be bound by WIAA rules with the following exceptions:

1. Home schooled students may participate in middle level sports.
2. Middle level athletes may compete in the same sport activities during the sporting season.
3. Students attending school in Granton or at St. John's in Neillsville may participate in middle level sports.
4. Sixth grade students may participate in the following middle level sports:
 - a. Cross Country
 - b. Football - only if they do not meet the size requirements stipulated by the local All American Youth Football program
 - c. Golf
 - d. Track
 - e. Wrestling
5. Fifth grade students may participate in wrestling practices with sixth grade students, but may not compete in matches.

Initial Adoption: 8/31/20

Final Adoption: 9/14/20

Authority:

- a. The athletic director shall be responsible to the high school principal and perform such duties as scheduling games, hiring officials, etc., as the principals and/or district administrator shall assign.
- b. Middle school and high school coaches shall be directly responsible to the building principal, and work in harmony with the athletic director.
- c. Coaching Vacancies: The administration will post the vacancy for certified staff for a period of at least five (5) working days. If no acceptable applicant applies from within the certified staff, the coaching vacancy shall be posted in the local paper for anyone else to apply. If no acceptable applicant applies, the coaching vacancy shall be assigned to a certified staff member. When the coaching vacancy is for a non-varsity position, the head coach of the sport shall be included in the hiring decision, as well as all discussions regarding non-varsity staff changes.

Athletic practices and activities:

- a. During the school term, no practice shall begin before the regular dismissal of the school day nor end later than 5:47 p.m. Evening football practice sessions may be scheduled before the regular school term begins in fall. Any exception permitting athletic practice at other times will require a written request by the head varsity coach to the high school principal.
- b. Middle School: No practice shall begin before the regular dismissal of the school day nor end later than 5:32 p.m. Any exception permitting athletic practice at other times will require a written request by the coach to the middle school principal. Middle school athletic competition shall be limited to games scheduled after the regular school day. Early dismissal for athletic contests will be held to a minimum.

Student expenses:

- a. Students are expected to provide their own meals when the activity requires the student to be away from home during meal time unless they are involved in a WIAA state tournament event, then meals for students are \$4.00 for breakfast, \$4.00 for lunch, and \$5.00 for dinner.
- b. All athletes shall ride to and from athletic contests on transportation provided by the School District of Neillsville. Exceptions shall be left to the discretion of the principal or athletic director. Arrangements must be made in advance with written notification from the parent or guardian for an athlete not riding the bus to or from a specific contest and signed by the principal or athletic director.

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The district shall not discriminate in student participation in athletic programs or activities, standards and rules of behavior, disciplinary actions or facilities usage on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap. The district shall provide comparable facilities for all extra-curricular activities for males and females, but separate locker rooms, showers and restroom facilities shall be maintained. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

CROSS REFERENCE: High School/Middle School Student Handbook
Athletic Training Policies
Athletic Handbook for Coaches and Parents
Policy AC - Nondiscrimination

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