

Student ATHLETIC Handbook

2015-2016

**Independence High
School**

**23786 Indee Blvd
Independence WI 54747
715-985-3172
www.indps.k12.wi.us**

Versión española del Manual. A petición se puede obtener una versión en español de este manual. Por favor, haga la solicitud con el Director de Deportes.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 3	Football Equipment Checkout
August 3	ATHLETIC CODE MEETING
August 4	First Day of Football Practice
August 10	ATHLETIC CODE MAKE-UP MEETING
August 17	First Day of Volleyball and Cross Country Practice
October 31	State Cross-Country
November 2	FALL SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT
November 5-7	State Girls' Volleyball
November 9	First Day of Girls' Basketball Practice
November 16	First Day of Boys' Basketball and Wrestling Practice
November 19	State Football – Division 7
February 25 – 27	State Individual Wrestling
March 5	State Team Wrestling
March 7	First Day of Track and Field Practice
March 8	WINTER SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT
March 10-12	State Girls' Basketball
March 14	First Day of Softball Practice
March 17-19	State Boys' Basketball
March 21	First Day of Baseball Practice
March 28	First Day of Golf Practice
June 3-4	State Track
June 6	SPRING SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT
June 6-7	State Boys' Golf
June 9-11	State Softball
June 14-16	State Baseball

Non Discrimination Policy

The Independence School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 may be referred to the District Administrator, School District of Independence, 23786 Indee Blvd., Independence, WI 54747. Any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX must be in writing and include a statement of facts comprising the alleged noncompliance, and be signed and dated.

PHILOSOPHY, OBJECTIVES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES *Student Athletic Handbook 2015-2016*

Philosophy:

The athletic program is an integral part of the Independence High School curriculum. The athletic program provides certain opportunities and emphasizes definite aims, which are difficult to duplicate in other school activities or in later life.

Participation in athletics will often give students an opportunity to receive recognition for a job well done that is not available to them in other phases of the curriculum.

Athletics provide a unique opportunity for young people to acquire discipline, to learn teamwork, and to accept the sacrifices that are necessary to be successful competitors.

Objectives:

Objectives of the Independence High School athletic program are:

1. To enjoy the opportunities and rewards of athletic competition.
2. To learn to be humble in victory, and to accept defeat graciously.
3. To provide opportunities for lasting friendships, both with teammates and opponents.
4. To provide an opportunity to exemplify and practice good sportsmanship.
5. To provide a team which will be viewed with pride by the entire student body, thus creating healthy school spirit for those students who cannot or do not participate.
6. To meet the fundamental urge for competition.
7. To provide an opportunity for all students to improve the skills they have acquired, to learn new skills, and to develop the good habits of health, sanitation and safety.
8. To provide students with an understanding that participation in athletics is a privilege which carries responsibilities and requires sacrifices.

Responsibilities:

The privilege of participating in our athletic program is extended to all students, providing they are willing to assume certain responsibilities.

The greatest responsibility is to be a credit to your parents, school, and community. Therefore, it is required that you:

1. Display high standards of social and academic behavior.

2. Display outstanding sportsmanship.
3. Respect your opponent.
4. Display proper respect for those in authority, including teachers, coaches, and officials.
5. Display a spirit of cooperation.
6. Dress with special care when attending a contest away from home.
7. Use language that is socially acceptable. Profanity will not be tolerated.

GENERAL INFORMATION

No one is to be allowed on the gym floor in street shoes, galoshes, etc.

No balls are to be thrown in the locker rooms or corridors.

Telephones in the athletic offices are not to be used by students except upon the consent of one of the coaches or authorized personnel.

Wearing School Equipment

Athletes and coaches are not to wear school issued equipment other than for the purpose the equipment was issued. No warm-ups, etc., are to be worn at any time other than at games, or designated times.

Curfew

Any head coach may impose a curfew for his/her team if he/she so desires. If a curfew is imposed, the times are as follows: 1) 10:00 P.M. during school days, 2) Immediately following a school event or return from a school event that runs later than 10:00 P.M., and 3) 12:00 A.M. on weekends or earlier if deemed appropriate by head coach. Athletic director should be notified of the curfew in advance.

Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary action for a violation of the athletic code is spelled out in the code. For disciplinary action not spelled out in the code, the head coach of each squad shall use such disciplinary action as he/she deems necessary. The athletic director shall be notified of such disciplinary action.

Appearance

All athletes are expected to maintain a neat appearance.

Dress Day of Contest

On days of an interscholastic contest, squad members are to wear acceptable dress as indicated by the coach.

Participation

No athlete or cheerleader may participate in any or high school athletic programs unless they pay a participation fee of \$50 (fifty dollars) per sport, with the exception that no athlete will pay more than \$100 (one-hundred dollars) in one school year or no family will pay more than \$150 (one-hundred and fifty dollars) in one school year. If a student is enrolled in the FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH program, their athletic fees will be waived. Team managers are not required to pay fees.

No athlete may participate in more than one WIAA sanctioned sport per athletic season unless the following conditions are met.

It should be emphasized that two-sport participation per season is only recommended for the exceptional student-athlete and in sports where conflicts of events is minimal. A head coach always has the right to deny participation in two-sports if they feel the participation is detrimental to the athlete's potential in either sport or detrimental to the team chemistry.

- a) There must be a face-to-face meeting involving the athlete, head coaches of each sport, the athletic director and at least one parent or guardian before the athlete may participate in the second sport.
 - 1) This meeting must be held before practices begin in either sport for the athlete to be eligible to compete in both sports. It is suggested that the students make this declaration at the fall athletic code meeting, the winter sports meetings, and the spring sports meeting. The face-to-face meeting with the parties mentioned above would then be scheduled shortly after.
 - 2) At this meeting, the athlete, unless they are a freshman, must declare one sport as a priority. This will be the sport that the athlete will participate in if there is a conflict between practices or games in the two sports. The exception to this is that an athlete will be allowed to participate in a conference event in the non-priority sport if the priority sport is not participating in a conference event on the same date. A contract will be drawn up and signed by all parties detailing the responsibilities of all parties.
 - 3) If the student is a freshman, then the student does not need to declare one sport as a priority, but may. A contract will be drawn up and signed by all parties detailing the responsibilities of all parties. Such responsibilities may include but are not limited to practice attendance, game/meet participation, academic achievement, and priorities when there is a conflict.
- b) All parties stated above must meet for a second meeting at the approximate midpoint of the beginning of participation in the second sport and the end of either athletic season. At this time an evaluation of the agreement set in condition a) will be done. After the evaluation the

original agreement may be continued, altered, or terminated. The student may switch which sport is a priority at this meeting.

- c) If after an agreement is made in condition a) and the athlete elects to quit either sport, the athletic director will inform the parents or guardians that the athlete is no longer participating in two sports.

Physical Education

All athletes are required to take physical education in the same way as non-athletes.

Training Room or First Aid Room

The training room should be used for the physical well being of the athletes. Students or athletes should not use it as a meeting room.

The head coaches of the sports in season are responsible for cleanliness and order in the training room.

NO ATHLETE OR STUDENT SHOULD BE IN THE TRAINING ROOM OR FIRST AID ROOM WITHOUT A COACH'S PERMISSION.

It is the coach's responsibility to be certain that a first aid kit accompanies a squad on all trips. All first aid kits will have the local doctors' names and telephone numbers on the kits.

Emergency Care of Athletic Injury

See Addendum for Emergency Nursing in Board Policy 453.

Absence on the Day of a Game/Practice

The policy is outlined as follows:

A student must be in school all day in all classes (missing over 50% of a class unexcused is considered missing the class), in order to compete in an athletic event or practice that day. Students will be allowed to participate if they have a pre-arranged excused absence, or a medical appointment, AND have notified the head coach at least one day before the absence or appointment. Students will be able to participate in athletic events and practices if they are tardy to school. Tardies end at 9 am.

Saturday Game

Athlete may be absent on Friday if the absence is for a legitimate reason.

1. Contact the coach involved.
2. Bring a note from parent.

Changing Sports

No student may quit one sport and begin another during the same season except by agreement of both coaches. Any boy or girl who quits an athletic squad during the season jeopardizes his/her chances of participating in another sport during that season.

Buses and Trips

No student participant may travel to a contest other than in the team bus, or transportation provided by the school, unless prior approval has been granted by the Athletic Director. Before the Athletic Director will grant approval, a phone call and a permission slip must be received from a parent/guardian. The student/participant MAY NOT return home by any other means other than the team transportation or with parent(s) unless a parental permission slip has been given ahead of time to the head coach.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT STATE W.I.A.A. ATHLETIC TOURNAMENTS

Independence Public Schools will condone student attendance at state athletic tournaments only to the degree of excusing absences from school during the day or days of such tournament to those students meeting the following criteria:

1. Student applying for excused absence must be an athlete or cheerleader for sport in which a state tournament is being conducted. The student may attend one state tournament per athletic season (fall, winter, spring). An exception will be made if an Independence team or individual is competing in the state tournament.
2. Tickets for state tournament attendance as made available to school through W.I.A.A. distribution will be made available to students requesting tickets on a priority basis giving first priority to senior varsity athletes, senior varsity cheerleaders, junior varsity athletes, etc. These tickets when available must be paid for in advance of ordering.
3. Parental approval for student attendance must be obtained in writing on attached note to parents. This approval will imply acceptance of full responsibility of parent and student for transportation, food, lodging, ticket costs, and deportment while at the tournament and while in transit. Coaches attending the state tournament are not responsible for the supervision of any athletes attending the state tournament as spectators.
4. Students applying for permission to attend must complete all required academic work for classes being missed prior to attendance.
5. Any student under a current code suspension (academic or training) at the time of their sport's state tournament is **not excused** to attend that state tournament for that athletic season.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

Each athlete should be fully aware of the eligibility requirements established by the W.I.A.A. All attendees of the mandatory athletic code meeting will be given copies of the WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin and this document can also be obtained from the Athletic Director or accessed at <http://www.wiaawi.org/forms/eligibilityinfoform.pdf>.

In order to represent Independence High School in any interscholastic competition, a student must meet all eligibility requirements of the W.I.A.A. as well as those established for Independence High School.

1. Responsibility

The responsibility of educating and guiding student athletes in the rules of eligibility governing member schools of the W.I.A.A. shall rest with the administration of each school.

2. Residence and Transfers

A student is eligible for interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside (inclusive of senior rule and open enrollment). There are additional provisions to determining residence that can be found in the W.I.A.A. Handbook.

3. Age

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he or she reaches his or her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

4. Amateur Status

A student shall be an amateur in all recognized sports of the W.I.A.A. in order to compete in any sport. He or she shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he or she loses that status. Specific violations of amateur status can be found in the W.I.A.A. handbook.

5. Attendance and Scholarship

A student is eligible for high school interscholastic competition if he or she is in regular attendance in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

1. A student is ineligible to participate in the next athletic competition of the athletic program from the date grades are made available to the staff after the most recent grading period, if they have a failing grade in any class. After the one-game suspension, a student will be required to get a signed statement from all of his/her teachers verifying that passing work is being achieved in all courses and present this statement to the principal and athletic director. The athlete will remain ineligible until they achieve a passing grade in all classes. A signed statement is not needed from the date grades are reported to when they are posted to the faculty. During the previously mentioned window of time the athletic director will check on the student's academic standing.

NOTE: For the sake of definition, grading periods are at the end of the quarter. For eligibility purposes, the quarter grades will be used to determine eligibility, NOT THE SEMESTER GRADES.

2. Students receiving two (2) or more failing grades at the end of a grading period are then under the restrictions of the WIAA. They will be ineligible from interscholastic competition until the 16th school day after grades are made available to the staff. At this time they will also be required to get a signed statement from all of his/her teachers verifying that passing work is being achieved in all courses and present this statement to the principal and athletic director.

3. A student making satisfactory progress in a school's prescribed course as a member of an "exceptional education program" may be exempt from normal scholarship requirements.

Academic Eligibility When School Is Not In Session

A student must be passing all classes at the end of any grading period to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. If school is in session, then a student may gain eligibility as stated above.

If school is not in session, then student will be suspended from competition as defined below.

- 1) One game suspension if they failed one class. The student must practice with the team during the period of ineligibility and complete the season.
- 2) If an athlete participates in a fall sport and has one failure from the previous year's end of fourth quarter, they will be eligible at the beginning of the season provided the suspension has been met in a spring sport, but they will be on academic probation. On the 16th day of the new school year, a student will be required to get a signed statement from all of his/her teachers verifying that passing work is being achieved in all courses and present this statement to the principal and athletic director. If they are not passing all classes at this time they will become ineligible for at least one event until they are passing all their classes.
- 3) If an athlete participates in a fall sport and has two or more failures from the previous year's end of fourth quarter, they are under the restrictions as set by the WIAA.

6. Non-School Competition

A high school student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in non-school activity in the same sport during the established school season (practice and competition).

7. General

A student may not participate or practice in interscholastic athletics until the school has an Examination-Permit card on file in its office attesting to (a) parental permission, and (b) physical fitness as determined by a licensed physician. NOTE: It is recommended that a student also have dental fitness attested by a licensed dentist.

A student shall be suspended from interscholastic athletics for acts at any time: (a) involving use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs, (b) violating the school's training, grooming and dress regulations, and (c) involving any other immoral or unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principles and standard of the school and the W.I.A.A.

- 1) A school shall have a code of conduct for its athletes, and it is strongly recommended that the code of conduct: (a) designate the period of time involved in a suspension in advance of the season, and (b) be developed with the involvement of coaches and administration and adopted along with a due process procedure by the Board of Education or school district.
- 2) The minimum penalty for acts of unacceptable conduct as outlined above occurring in

association-sponsored tournaments shall be immediate disqualification of a student for the entire tournament series in that sport.

8. Athletic Code Meeting

All Students planning on participating in any athletic program at Independence High School must attend the scheduled Athletic Code meeting annually, which will be held before the beginning of the fall athletic seasons. It is recommended that a parent or guardian also be in attendance.

9. Period of Ineligibility

- 1) Any proceedings resulting in censure of an athlete, manager, or cheerleader must specify the commencement and the end of the period of ineligibility.
- 2) Any student who fails to turn in all issued athletic equipment or fails to pay for said equipment will be ineligible for participation in any other sports until equipment is turned in or paid for.
- 3) A student must be an active participant/athlete (not a manager unless previously a manager) to regain eligibility.
- 4) Completion of the season is mandatory to satisfy a suspension. If the coach deems that the athlete did not participate in a satisfactory manner (i.e. missed numerous practices, uncooperative during practice or games, discipline problems, etc.) during the sports season the suspension was to be served, the athlete will not be considered to have satisfied the suspension. The suspension will then be carried over to the next sports season the athlete participates in. A completion of season form from the coach of the preceding sport must be signed before an athlete can participate in the next sport.
- 5) All suspensions in middle school are terminated upon graduation from middle school. Every student continuously enrolled in the District will begin their high school term with a "clean slate". No middle school code violations will be used to determine periods of ineligibility for high school violations. The high school code for a student goes into effect immediately following graduation from middle school.

SQUAD MEMBERSHIP: An athlete, manager, or cheerleader who is dropped from one team for disciplinary reasons shall not be eligible to compete in another sport that season.

SCHOOL SUSPENSION: An athlete, manager, or cheerleader who is suspended from school cannot participate or practice during the suspension period.

ALL RULES CONCERNING ATTENDANCE AS DEFINED IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK SHALL BE ENFORCED!

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES, MANAGERS, AND CHEERLEADERS

The following articles shall govern the conduct of all athletes, managers, and cheerleaders - regardless of age - who participate in interscholastic sports at Independence High School, and are in addition to the rules and general regulations set forth in the Independence High School Student Handbook. Athletes should be aware that participation in athletics is a privilege and continued participation is at the discretion of school administrators.

The training rules will be enforced twelve (12) months of the year for all athletes, managers, and cheerleaders.

Any procedures outlined in the following rules and regulations do not in any way preclude referring problems of a criminal nature to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

VIOLATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSING PENALTIES

Violations under articles one, two, three, and four:

Article One: Drinking alcoholic or malt beverages or having in his/her possession by an athlete, manager, or cheerleader constitutes a violation of the Code of Conduct.

Article Two: Using, buying, selling, transmitting or having in possession illegal drugs of any kind or the misuse of legal drugs by an athlete, manager, or cheerleader constitutes a violation of the Code of Conduct.

Article Three: Any use of tobacco or possession (smoking, chewing, etc.) by an athlete, manager, or cheerleader constitutes a violation of the Code of Conduct.

Article Four: An athlete, manager, or cheerleader who steals athletic equipment, physical education equipment, or vandalizes any other property from Independence High School or from any other school or its personnel, shall be considered in violation of the Code of Conduct.

Penalties for Violation of Articles One, Two, Three, and Four:

If it is determined that an athlete, manager, or cheerleader has violated articles one, two, three, or four of the code of conduct the following penalty will be assessed:

- 1) For the first violation the student will be suspended from participation in 50% of the scheduled events for the sport in which they are participating, or in the next sport in which they plan to participate. If the violation occurs when less than 50% of the events remaining in the sport in which the student is participating, the penalty will extend into the next season of participation and be prorated in that sport. (In all circumstances completion of the season is required to remove suspension.) The student will be expected to practice with the team, but will be unable to participate in events until suspension is removed.

HONESTY CLAUSE: The following conditions only apply to first-time offenders.

- a) If a student commits an athletic code violation during the school year, or while a student is participating in a sport, the following timelines must be followed to reduce the suspension to 25% of the originally scheduled athletic events. After an athletic code violation the student must confess to the violation by the end of the next day of school that the student is in attendance, or before the next scheduled athletic event or practice. The school year is defined as the first day of school to the last day of school inclusive.
 - b) If a student commits an athletic code violation during the time period outside the school year and is not participating in a sport the following timeline must be followed to reduce the suspension to 25% of the originally scheduled events. After an athletic code violation the student must confess to the violation by the end of the next working day. Working days are considered Monday through Friday excluding holidays.
 - c) In either a) or b) above the confessions must be made to the principal, athletic director, head or assistant coach of the sport the student is currently participating in, or an administrative secretary if all of the other personnel are unavailable. The person who receives the confession will then document the date and time of the confession. The athletic director, coaches and secretaries will then notify the principal of the confession.
- 2) If a second violation occurs within one year from the first violation, the student will be suspended from interscholastic athletics for a period of one year from the date of the second violation.
 - 3) If a second violation occurs after one calendar year from the first violation, then the student will be suspended under the same guidelines as a first violation.
 - 4) Any high school student receiving a third violation in high school will be ineligible for one calendar year from the date of that violation or one calendar year from the end of any suspension the student is currently serving.
 - 5) Any high school student receiving a fourth violation in high school will be ineligible from any and all interscholastic sports participation for the remainder of their high school careers.
 - 6) Before eligibility can be regained after a second violation of Article One, Two, or Three, (any combination) a student must have an assessment done by a qualified drug and alcohol counselor. The guidance counselor of Independence High School may assist the assessment arrangement.

Violations under Article Five:

Article Five: Athletes are public figures, representatives of the District, and serve as role models for others. The team, its coaches, the school and the community are judged by the behavior in public of the individuals representing them. Therefore, in addition to the requirement that each athlete comply with the specific rules set forth in this Code, each student athlete shall be expected to exercise reasonable citizenship. Any athlete conducting him/herself in a manner unbecoming an athlete or who is convicted of a violation of any state criminal law, whether a misdemeanor or a felony, or who has violated any county or municipal ordinance or regulation enacted for the protection of the public or for its peace and good order, which statute, ordinance or

regulation imposes any penalty, including but not limited to jail time, monetary penalty or forfeiture, if such conduct or violation is found by the Athletic Council to be conduct unbecoming an athlete and of such a serious nature as to affect the operation and functioning of the school system or of any of its athletic programs, shall be subject to sanctions under this Code commensurate with the severity of the misconduct.

In addition, student-athletes who violate the Independence School District policy regarding behavior shall be subject to sanctions under this Code commensurate with the severity of the misconduct. Offenses may include, but are not limited to bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, intimidation, menacing behavior, and disrespect towards staff and students. This includes physical, verbal, psychological, and technology-transmitted behavior.

Penalty for violation Under Article Five:

If it is determined that an athlete, manager, or cheerleader has violated Article Five, the penalty will be assessed on an individual basis, depending on the seriousness of the offense, by the Athletic Director, head coach of the sport, other head coaches and Principal.

PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING VIOLATIONS

1. For an Article Violation to be processed by the Principal one of the following should occur:
 - A. Article Violation must be submitted in writing by an individual who witnessed the violation.
 - B. Viewed by District Administrator, Principal, or Contracted Coach.
 - C. For any verbal or written information from an unidentified source, the Principal/District Administrator may contact the accused athlete.
 - D. For any visual or audio information (pictures, video, cd's, recordings) to be processed it must be accompanied by a signed affidavit from an adult 18 years of age or older, verifying that the media is authentic.
2. The Principal will meet with the alleged offender, will investigate the charge, and make a decision.
3. The Principal may make his decision immediately if he/she or a coach viewed the violation.
4. The Principal may consult with any of the head coaches. Suspension shall be based on the Article Violations and the penalties assigned thereto.
5. The Principal shall verbally notify the athlete, manager, or cheerleader immediately after his/her decision. He shall attempt to telephone the parents of his decision.
6. The Principal shall give the athlete and parents a written notice of his decision.
7. The Principal will clearly define the dates of the suspension and will indicate, by game, when the athlete, manager, or cheerleader can again participate.
8. He/she shall inform the student of the appeal procedure and give the student a copy of the same.

9. Suspensions may be appealed through the "due process" procedure. During the appeal procedure, the suspension shall remain in effect unless otherwise directed.
10. If the athlete denies violating the athletic code, the school will provide an opportunity for the athlete to meet with the principal, athletic director, and head coach prior to any penalty being enforced.

DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE

"Due Process" is a procedure that the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. "Due Process" furthermore and of primary importance recognizes the rights of the individual, since it outlines his/her recourse in the event he/she feels a wrong decision has been made. The "Due Process" steps outlined hereafter is the procedure for an athlete and his/her parents to follow in appealing decisions relating to eligibility. It should be understood that athletes and parents will be expected to follow the "Due Process" steps in the event legal action should be initiated at some later date.

1. After a ruling of ineligibility resulting in suspension from athletics has been made, an athlete and/or his or her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the Athletic Director provided an appeal is received within 14 days from the first day such ineligibility shall take effect.
2. The Athletic Director within three days of receipt of such written appeal shall formalize the ineligibility decision in writing, send a letter by registered mail to the parents outlining the specific details relating to (a) violation or infraction, (b) date of violation or infraction, (c) period of suspension and, (d) any other pertinent information.
3. After an appeal has been received and the school's formal reply mailed to the parents, a date for a hearing will be established by the Principal, such date no later than seven days after receipt of the written reply to the athlete and his/her parents. Present at the hearing, in addition to the Athletic Director, Principal, and/or District Administrator of the school, shall be the athlete and the parents and, if a rule relating to a specific sport is involved, the head coach of that sport.
 - a. The athlete will be provided with an opportunity to testify and present other evidence on his/her behalf at the hearing.
 - b. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the athlete and his/her parents.
4. If the athlete and his/her parents are not satisfied with the findings of the hearing, a second hearing may be requested before the Board of Education. The Athletic Director or Principal must receive in writing a request for such a second hearing before the Board of Education within 14 days of the mailing of the outcome of the original hearing.

NOTE: At this point the due process procedure is complete for middle school athletes. All other appeals Must be made through the public judicial system. High school athletes may proceed to steps 5 and 6.

NOTE: Provisions as outlined in No. 3 above, including items a. and b. will be applicable relating to the second hearing.

5. If the athlete and his/her parents remain dissatisfied with the findings of the second hearing, a review by the Executive Office of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association may be requested through the school. The Athletic Director or Principal must receive in writing a request for a review by the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A. within 14 days of the mailing of the outcome of the second hearing. The Athletic Director or Principal, in forwarding the appeal letter of the athlete and his/her parents to the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A., shall also enclose a copy of (a) the original appeal letter from the athlete and parents, (b) the school's reply outlining violation or infraction leading to ineligibility status, and (c) proceedings of both hearings.
 - a. The Executive Office of the W.I.A.A. will inform the Athletic Director or Principal of the school of the outcome of its review.
 - b. The Athletic Director will mail a copy of the outcome of the review from the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A. to the athlete and his/her parents within three days or receipt of the outcome of the review.
6. If the athlete and his/her parents remain dissatisfied with the findings of the review by the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A., they may appeal in writing through the school for either a review by or a hearing before the Board of Control of the W.I.A.A. through the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A. The Athletic Director or Principal must receive the written request for such a review or hearing within 14 days of the mailing of the review by the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A.
 - a. The Board of Control will act on a request for a hearing as outlined in the WIAA Appeal Process, no later than its first regularly scheduled meeting after receiving the written appeal through the school.
7. The provisions as outlined above shall be sole and exclusive remedy for appeal from the rulings referred to in Paragraph 1.

ATHLETIC INJURIES AND THEIR CARE

1. All safety equipment required by the W.I.A.A. will be furnished to the athlete, the manager, or cheerleader.
2. Independence High School does not participate in the W.I.A.A. Benefit Program for accidental injury; therefore, any or all costs incurred by any participant because of an athletic injury will be borne by the respective parents or guardian of the participant involved.
3. Students who intend on participating in sports during the school year are reminded that physical examinations are required by the W.I.A.A. every other year, and parental permission cards must also be signed and placed on file in the school office before the beginning of the sport season in which they are planning to participate. Physical examination appointments may be made with the doctor of their choice and will be at the student's own expense. Examination cards are available in the school office and must be taken along to the physician by the student.
4. All injuries must be reported to the coach immediately. Do not go to the doctor without the coach's knowledge unless in an emergency. An accident report will be filed as soon as possible following the injury.

5. In case of an emergency, students will be sent to a doctor of their choice, if possible, and the parents will be notified.

AWARD POLICIES

Awards offered at Independence High School are as follows.

1. Letters: One major letter to each athlete meeting the qualifications for that particular sport. Only one Independence "I" will be awarded.
2. Stars: A star metal insert or captain's insert will be presented to the elected captain(s) of each sport.
3. Metal Inserts: A metal insert will be presented to the athlete to be put on the major letter depicting the sport(s) for which he or she earned letters. Only one per sport will be awarded. All metal inserts must be worn on the letter, including W.I.A.A. and Dairyland Conference Championship medals, plus any championship medals the school may award.
4. Bars: Bars will be awarded for a second major award in the same sport.
5. Certificates: Certificates may accompany each of these awards.

WEARING OF AWARDS

1. Letters: Letters are to be centered chest high on left side of letter jacket, or pocket high on the left side on a letter sweater.
2. Bars: Bars are to be attached to the major letter adjacent to the metal insert.
3. Only extra-curricular and co-curricular medals are to be displayed on Letter Jackets.

AWARDS CEREMONIES

Athletes are expected to attend all awards ceremonies for their respective sports. Athletes not in attendance at awards ceremonies will not receive their awards for that sport, unless they have notified their coach prior to the ceremony that they will not be in attendance. Students who have graduated will be exempt from this rule.

GUIDELINES FOR EARNING LETTERS

The following are guidelines to be followed in the individual sports. If an athlete is suspended from school or suspended from any squad for violating Articles One, Two, Three or Four of the Code of Conduct, or who's misconduct under Article Five was penalized for the equivalent of one-fourth (1/4) of a season or more at any time through his/her high school career, he/she is not eligible for a letter. However, letters may be awarded at the discretion of the head coach in the particular sport in which the student athlete participated. Only varsity events count towards a letter.

1. Football: The athlete must have played in one-fourth of the total number of scheduled quarters.
2. Volleyball: Letters will be awarded to individuals playing in at least 65 percent of the varsity matches.
3. Basketball: Letters will be awarded to individuals playing in one-fourth of the total quarters the team played.
4. Wrestling: Letters will be awarded according to the individual's earned points. This is based on one point for participation, three points for a decision, and five points for pin, technical fall, major decision, or forfeit.
5. Track and Field: Letters will be awarded to individuals earning at least 15 points based on place points. However, the number of points may be raised or lowered according to the team schedule.
6. Baseball: Letters will be awarded to individuals playing in one-fourth (1/4) of the total innings the team played or two-fifths (2/5) of the total games played.
7. Softball: Letters will be awarded to individuals playing in one-fourth (1/4) of the total innings the team played.
8. Golf: Letters will be awarded to individuals playing in one-fourth (1/4) of the total meets played by the team.
9. Cheerleading: Letters will be awarded to individuals based on criteria set by the advisor and athletic director. For football cheerleading, participants must cheer at eight (8) varsity games to earn a letter.
10. Student Manager: A letter will be awarded to an individual who manages the same sport for two successive years, providing the individual fulfills all duties as set down by the coach.
11. Statistician: A letter will be awarded to an individual who takes stats for the same sport for two successive years, providing the individual fulfills all duties as set down by the coach.

12. Special Olympics:

- **Bowling:** letters are awarded to those students qualified to advance to state competition and or those advancing to regional competition who have participated in 80% (a 15-game minimum) of practices for two years.
- **Athletics:** letters are awarded to those students qualified to advance to state competition and or those who have participated in 80% of practices for two years.
- **Basketball Skills:** letters are awarded to those students qualified to advance to state competition and or those who have participated in 80% of practices for two years.
- **Bocce Ball:** letters are awarded to those students qualified to advance to state competition and or those who have participated in 80% of practices for two years

SPECIAL AWARDS

I. Most Valuable Player Award

II. Most Improved Player Award

III. Senior Athletic Participation Award(Effective school year of 2000-2001):

Upon completion of their senior year, athletes will receive this award in the form of a plaque if they have met the following criteria:

- a) Participate in four (4) complete athletic seasons in one sport or any number of sports.
 - 1) A complete season is defined as being on the team roster continuously from the first competition through the last competition for that team.
 - 2) It will not be considered a complete season, if at anytime during the season the athlete is suspended for athletic code violations or academic ineligibility.
 - 3) If due to injury, an athlete is unable to participate in a sport that they participated in the previous year, they will be credited with a complete season.
- b) Letter a minimum of one (1) time.
- c) Must participate in one (1) complete season their senior year.
- d) Any athlete who violates Articles One through Four or Article Five (if violation is deemed sufficiently severe) will not be eligible for the Senior Athlete Participation Award.

The plaque will list all sports the athlete has participated in during high school as well as any honors received in athletics.

School District of Independence

School District Media Policy

Students at the School District of Independence are encouraged to partake in various activities offered throughout the School District.

The School District will assume that parents with students that participate in school activities, and/or students 18 years or older who participate in school activities, are aware that these activities may be covered by various forms of media.

The District will assume that you have no objection to photos or video taken and used by media that may cover activities. Examples of these various activities include: sporting events, concerts, field trips, and other offered extracurricular activities.

The term “media” in this case, is defined as a plural term used to reach people on a wide spread basis. This media would include: newspapers, magazines, brochures, internet, radio, and television.

The School District website and District printed publications may also feature pictures of students involved in the above mentioned activities.

The School District will assume that you (Parent or Student 18 years or older) have no objection to the media students could be subject to and that by choosing to participate in School District activities, those activities may be covered by media.



2015-2016 High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin

To: Student-Athletes and Their Parents

From: Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and Independence High School

Your high school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. The following rules and regulations are developed by the member schools of the WIAA and govern the participation by boys and girls in school athletics and in some instances, impact upon sports activities outside the school.

This information bulletin is a **summary** of the WIAA OFFICIAL HANDBOOK as it pertains to those rules and regulations. Both student-athletes and their parents should have an understanding of these requirements. Equally important is that student-athletes and/or parents talk to their principal or athletic director if they have any question about these regulations. For additional information on Rules of Eligibility see the WIAA Handbook, or visit the WIAA website at www.wiaawi.org.

This bulletin does not discuss specific penalties for all violations. The reason is that penalties vary depending upon the nature of the violation. In addition, schools often have established penalties or periods of ineligibility which are greater than the minimum prescribed by WIAA rules.

There also are exceptions and other permissive provisions in some rules. Student-athletes and their parents should discuss all athletic eligibility related situations with the school principal or athletic director who, if necessary, will get a decision, interpretation, or opinion from the WIAA office.

Student-athletes, as well as parents are asked to read this bulletin, then sign it and have their signature statement (attached) on file at their school prior to practicing and competing.

These are WIAA eligibility rules, which are current for the 2015-2016 school year:

AGE

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

ACADEMICS

A student-athlete must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent school issued grade reporting period. Note: Some member schools adopt code and academic policies and other participation requirements which are more stringent than WIAA minimum requirements. In those instances the schools requirements prevail and must be applied as written.

ATTENDANCE

A student-athlete is eligible for interscholastic competition at a member school if he/she is carried on the attendance rolls as a duly enrolled full-time Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 student in that member school. (Subject to satisfying all other eligibility requirements.)

Note: A full-time student is further defined as one where the member school is responsible for programming 100% of the student's school day. The student is eligible for like or similar awards, privileges and services as all the other students and meets all obligations and responsibilities as other students, without exception.

- A. A student must complete eligibility in the four consecutive years starting with Grade 9 and the three consecutive years starting with Grade 10, unless there are documented extenuating circumstances and a waiver has been provided.
- B. A student is ineligible if he/she has graduated from a school offering studies through Grade 12 or its equivalent.
- C. A student who graduated in May or June retains eligibility for (a) any portion of a spring athletic schedule not completed by the end of the academic year and (b) the school's summer athletic schedule.
- D. A student is ineligible if he/she has not been enrolled in some school by the 17th day of a semester or trimester, except upon request of a school in special cases involving sickness, accident, military service, social services assignment, e.g.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school sports in more than four different years, and a student-athlete may not participate in the same sport more than one season each school year.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district, with these additional provisions:

- A. Board of Education approved full-time student(s), paying their own tuition and residing full time with parents in their primary residence shall be afforded eligibility. Transfer students are subject to provisions outlined in the transfers section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.
- B. The residence of a student's guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.

- C. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility, except in situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the transfer and/or waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook.
- D. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state and is enrolled in a district approved program may be eligible at either school (first priority to school of residence) but (a) may not participate at both schools in the same year and (b) academic ineligibility accompanies student upon transfer. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- E. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state or who is participating full time in a legislated open enrollment option must meet all statutory timeline requirements. This provision extends the opportunity to decline attendance at the new school and continue at his/her school of residence. If the student begins the school year at the new school and then transfers back to school of residence after attending one or more days of school or one or more athletic practices, he/she shall be subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer Section of this document.
- F. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's attendance boundaries, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- G. After a student-athlete has not participated and/or has had their eligibility restricted for one calendar year due to reasons relating to residence and/or transfer, he/she becomes eligible.
- H. A student-athlete will not be eligible if his/her attendance at a particular school resulted from undue influence (special consideration because of athletic ability) on the part of any person.
- I. A student-athlete who has been declared ineligible at a school for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons or due to another State Association's provision retains that ineligibility status if he/she transfers to another school.
- J. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer students are subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.

DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only if the student is residing full time with parents in their primary residence with these additional provisions:

- A. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year'. Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer restrictions may also apply.
- B. Residing full time with guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- C. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's traditional attendance area, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
- D. A student who has been in attendance in a nonpublic, self-contained school (i.e. grades K-12 or 7-12) for at least one complete school year prior to reaching Grade 9 and has not broken enrollment during that time is eligible in that nonpublic school upon entering Grade 9.
- E. Except in situations involving mid-year transfer and/or transfer after the fourth consecutive semester students attending member residential schools shall be eligible at the member school provided they reside at the school or reside full time with parents in their primary residence.
- F. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester, a full-time student attending a nonpublic school but not residing in accordance with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers.

TRANSFERS

A full-time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. **Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility.** For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

- A. A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition any any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made

necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

- B. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.
- C. Open enrolled and/or tuition paying students entering 11th and/or 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- D. 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for the remainder of the school year. Restrictions are removed upon entering 10th grade.
- E. 10th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).
- F. In the event of divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility for students entering 9th and/or 10th grade. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- G. District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supercede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-4th semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 result in the student being ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school), but may practice.
- H. Unless transfer, including an accompanying change of parents' residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.
- I. If within the first four consecutive semesters following entry into grade 9, a student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that current school year and will be eligible for nonvarsity opportunities only for the balance of the calendar year. In situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- J. A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
- K. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
- L. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION and PARENT'S PERMISSION

A student-athlete whether an adult or not, must have written permission of parents to participate in school athletics, an emergency information form, and he/she must have a physical examination (signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or advanced practice nurse prescriber) every other school year.

A physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years. Physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and the following school year.

TRAINING and CONDUCT

A student-athlete must follow his/her school's code of conduct (training rules) on a year-round basis.

- A. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct during the season of a sport (start of practice to final game) must be suspended from competition for a period of time specified in the code (minimum of one meet) if the violation involves (a) possession and/or use of alcohol, (b) possession and/or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco and (c) use, possession, buying or selling of controlled substances, street drugs and performance enhancing substances (PES).
- B. The member school will determine minimum penalties for violation of any other provisions of its code of conduct, including out of season offenses and for any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principals and standards of the school and this Association including but not limited to criminal behavior.
- C. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct at times other than during the actual season of a sport must be disciplined by the school, the nature of such discipline to be determined by the school as indicated in its code of conduct.
- D. A student-athlete who violates any part of the school or WIAA's code of conduct resulting in suspension for any portion of WIAA-sponsored tournament competition must be immediately declared ineligible for the remainder of tournament series in that sport. During the WIAA Tournament, an ineligible athlete may not suit up.
- E. A student-athlete, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is also suspended from the next competitive event.

- F. Any player who in the judgment of the official, intentionally spits on, strikes, slaps, kicks, pushes or aggressively physically contacts an official at any time shall be immediately ineligible for competition a minimum of 90 calendar days from the date of the confrontation. In addition, the player is ineligible to compete for the first 25% of the next season in that same sport.
- G. A school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to a penalty being enforced. If a student appeals a suspension, according to the schools appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.
- H. Schools/individuals are prohibited during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series from practicing for regional, sectional, and state tournament preparation at sites and facilities hosting WIAA tournaments.

AMATEUR STATUS

A student-athlete must be an amateur in all recognized sports of this association in order to compete in any WIAA sport.

- A. A student-athlete may not accept, receive or direct to another, reimbursement in any form of cash or merchandise such as shoes, shirts, jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, jerseys, warm-ups, equipment, balls, duffel bags, backpacks, watches, rings, billfolds, coupons, gift certificates, regardless of their value for athletic accomplishments, such as being on a winning team, being selected for the school varsity team, or being a place winner in an individual tournament, e.g.
- B. A student-athlete may receive awards for school achievement which are symbolic (non utilitarian) in nature – badges, certificates, trophies, medals, banners, ribbons, pictures, plaques, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, unattached emblems, letters, season highlight DVD or video, e.g.
- C. A student-athlete may not receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete because of ability, potential and/or performance as an athlete. This includes receiving free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students.
- D. A student-athlete may not be identified (with or without permission) as an athlete, provide endorsement as an athlete or appear as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan, or service.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school athletics or in sports activities outside the school under a name other than his/her own name.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

A student-athlete in a given sport may not compete in that same sport outside of school either as a team member or an individual or independent entry during the same time he/she is participating with the school team. Violation of this rule results in loss of eligibility for the remainder of the season (including the WIAA tournament series).

- A. WIAA rules do not prevent athletes from practicing with nonschool teams or from receiving private skills instruction during the school season. However, they may not participate officially or unofficially (including “banditing”) in any nonschool competitions or races, including scrimmages against other teams.
 - (1) This restriction applies to normal nonschool games as well as “gimmicks,” such as reduced numbers competition (3-on-3 basketball, 6 player soccer, e.g.), specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests, free throws, 3 point, e.g.), fun runs, etc.
 - (2) During the season, athletes may participate in a skills contest with approval of the school. Specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests e.g., free throws, 3 point, drive, chip and putt) isolate separate skills outside of the traditional competition setting. The skill contest may not include physical contact or extreme fatigue as the actual sport competition. Fun runs are not considered skills contests. There can be no school coach involvement. All other eligibility rules including amateur status apply.
 - (3) A student who was a member of a school team during the previous year may not delay reporting for the school team beyond the school’s official opening day of practice in order to continue nonschool training and/or competition.
- B. During the school year before and/or after the school season of a sport and in the summertime, members of a school’s team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates (without school and/or school coach involvement) at their own discretion.
- C. A student-athlete or his/her parents must pay the fee for specialized training or instruction such as camps, clinics, and similar programs.
- D. A student-athlete may not be instructed except during the school season of a sport and approved summer contact days by the person who will be his/her coach in that sport in the following school season. The sports of baseball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, soccer (must conclude by July 31 for fall soccer), softball, swimming, tennis, track & field, and wrestling are exempt from this rule, BUT only (a) during the summer months and (b) if the program involved is not limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
- E. A student-athlete must not participate in an all-star game or similar contest except for summertime activities (a) within the same league or program (e.g., softball game between divisions of same league) or (b) in which a team is selected to represent a league in post-season play (e.g., Babe Ruth league team). Some post-season all-star opportunities may be permitted for 12th graders who have completed high school eligibility in a particular sport. Check with your Athletic Director to be certain.
- F. Schools/individuals are prohibited during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series from practicing for regional, sectional, and state tournament preparation at sites and facilities hosting WIAA tournaments.

USE OF STUDENT IMAGE

The participation of student-athletes in school and WIAA tournaments may result in the use of student-athlete images in promotion of school and WIAA events.

In order to facilitate good communication, all questions regarding athletic participation at your school should be addressed to your athletic administrator.

Concussion Information - When in Doubt, Sit Them Out!

1. Before a student may participate in practice or competition: At the beginning of a season for a youth athletic activity, the person operating the youth athletic activity shall distribute a concussion and head injury information sheet to each person who will be coaching that youth athletic activity and to each person who wishes to participate in that youth athletic activity. No person may participate in a youth athletic activity unless the person returns the information sheet signed by the person and, if he or she is under the age of 19, by his or her parent or guardian.
2. An athletic coach, or official involved in a youth athletic activity, or health care provider shall remove a person from the youth athletic activity if the coach, official, or health care provider determines that the person exhibits signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion or head injury or the coach, official, or health care provider suspects the person has sustained a concussion or head injury.
3. A person who has been removed from a youth athletic activity may not participate in a youth athletic activity until he or she is evaluated by a health care provider and receives a written clearance to participate in the activity from the health care provider.

These are some SIGNS concussion (what others can see in an injured athlete):	These are some of the more common SYMPTOMS of concussion (what an injured athlete feels):
Dazed or stunned appearance Change in the level of consciousness or awareness Confused about assignment Forgets plays Unsure of score, game, opponent Clumsy Answers more slowly than usual Shows behavior changes Loss of consciousness Asks repetitive questions or memory concerns	Headache Nausea Dizzy or unsteady Sensitive to light or noise Feeling mentally foggy Problems with concentration and memory Confused Slow

Injured athletes can exhibit many or just a few of the signs and/or symptoms of concussion. However, if a player exhibits any signs or symptoms of concussion, the responsibility is simple: remove them from participation. "When in doubt sit them out."

It is important to notify a parent or guardian when an athlete is thought to have a concussion. Any athlete with a concussion must be seen by an appropriate health care provider before returning to practice (including weight lifting) or competition.

RETURN TO PLAY

Current recommendations are for a stepwise return to play program. In order to resume activity, the athlete must be symptom free and off any pain control or headache medications. The athlete should be carrying a full academic load without any significant accommodations. Finally, the athlete must have clearance from an appropriate health care provider.

The program described below is a guideline for returning concussed athletes when they are symptom free. Athletes with multiple concussions and athletes with prolonged symptoms often require a very different return to activity program and should be managed by a physician that has experience in treating concussion.

The following program allows for one step per 24 hours. The program allows for a gradual increase in heart rate/physical exertion, coordination, and then allows contact. If symptoms return, the athlete should stop activity and notify their healthcare provider before progressing to the next level.

STEP ONE: About 15 minutes of light exercise: stationary biking or jogging
STEP TWO: More strenuous running and sprinting in the gym or field without equipment
STEP THREE: Begin non-contact drills in full uniform. May also resume weight lifting
STEP FOUR: Full practice with contact
STEP FIVE: Full game clearance

118.293 Concussion and head injury.

(1) In this section:

(a) "Credential" means a license or certificate of certification issued by this state.

(b) "Health care provider" means a person to whom all of the following apply:

1. He or she holds a credential that authorizes the person to provide health care.

2. He or she is trained and has experience in evaluating and managing pediatric concussions and head injuries.

3. He or she is practicing within the scope of his or her credential.

(c) "Youth athletic activity" means an organized athletic activity in which the participants, a majority of whom are under 19 years of age, are engaged in an athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity, or in practice or preparation for an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity. "Youth athletic activity" does not include a college or university activity or an activity that is incidental to a nonathletic program.

(2) In consultation with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, the department shall develop guidelines and other information for the purpose of educating athletic coaches and pupil athletes and their parents or guardians about the nature and risk of concussion and head injury in youth athletic activities.

(3) At the beginning of a season for a youth athletic activity, the person operating the youth athletic activity shall distribute a concussion and head injury information sheet to each person who will be coaching that youth athletic activity and to each person who wishes to participate in that youth athletic activity. No person may participate in a youth athletic activity unless the person returns the information sheet signed by the person and, if he or she is under the age of 19, by his or her parent or guardian.

(4) (a) An athletic coach, or official involved in a youth athletic activity, or health care provider shall remove a person from the youth athletic activity if the coach, official, or health care provider determines that the person exhibits signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion or head injury or the coach, official, or health care provider suspects the person has sustained a concussion or head injury.

(b) A person who has been removed from a youth athletic activity under par. (a) may not participate in a youth athletic activity until he or she is evaluated by a health care provider and receives a written clearance to participate in the activity from the health care provider.

(5) (a) Any athletic coach, official involved in an athletic activity, or volunteer who fails to remove a person from a youth athletic activity under sub. (4) (a) is immune from civil liability for any injury resulting from that omission unless it constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(b) Any volunteer who authorizes a person to participate in a youth athletic activity under sub. (4) (b) is immune from civil liability for any injury resulting from that act unless the act constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(6) This section does not create any liability for, or a cause of action against, any person.

Possible Information Sheets:

Coaches: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionCoaches.pdf>

Parents: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionParents.pdf>

Parents: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/NFHSParentGuide.pdf>

Athletes: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionAthletes.pdf>

Order CDC materials: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/pubs/ncipc.aspx#tbi4>

ATHLETES, MANAGERS, CHEERLEADERS EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORM

This information sheet must be completed per WIAA rules for athletes to participate in athletics at Independence High School.

2015-16

Today's Date: _____

Emergency/Medical/Child Custody Information

Athlete's Name _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade this year: _____
Address _____ Home Phone: _____
Mailing Address (if different from 911): _____

Student Lives With:

First Name:	Last Name:	Relationship: (Mother, Father, Guardian, etc.)	Employer:	Work Phone: and/or Cell Phone:
1.				
2.				

Not Listed Above (Non-Custodial Parent)

First Name:	Last Name:	Relationship:	Address:	Work Phone: And/or Cell Phone:
1.				
2.				

List at least two local adults whom we can contact in the event that your child becomes sick or injured at practice or games and needs to leave. Be sure that these people have been informed of their responsibility.

First Name:	Last Name:	Relationship: (Relative, Friend, Neighbor, etc.)	Daytime Telephone:
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Does your student have ANY health conditions that coaches need to be aware of? (All information is confidential and made known only to those directly involved with the student.) Please indicate conditions/concerns.

List any allergies your student has: _____
Describe your student's reaction: _____

Physician's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Dentist's Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Preferred Ambulance Service or Hospital _____

Are there any court orders affecting the release of your child from practice/games to the non-custodial parent? Explain.

In case of accident, serious illness, or emergency, and I cannot be reached, I hereby authorize the supervising coach or athletic director to take my child to the nearest available practicing physician or dentist for treatment. I further authorize the coach or director to render first aid if he or she deems it necessary.

Signed (Parent or Guardian): _____ Date: _____

TURN OVER TO SIGN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, CONCUSSION AND MEDIA FORM

ATHLETES, MANAGERS, CHEERLEADERS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

2015-2016

Please check to acknowledge you understand the conditions for participation

- ☐ I have read the Independence Public School Student Athletic handbook and understand the rules and regulations within.
- ☐ I agree to abide by all rules and regulations set down by my individual coach and the athletic director.
- ☐ I certify that I have been made aware of, read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the information contained in the WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin. I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in the document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this acknowledgement.
- ☐ I hereby acknowledge having received education about the signs, symptoms and risks of sport related concussion, and it is my responsibility to report to my coaches, parent(s)/guardian(s) any signs or symptoms of a concussion. I certify that I have read, understand and agree to abide by all of the information contained in the concussion documents. I further certify that if I have not understood any of the concussion information, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement.
- ☐ I have read the School District Media Policy and understand that my likeness and name can be released to the media. (IF YOU DO NOT CHECK THIS BOX, WE WILL NOT RELEASE YOUR LIKENESS WITH YOUR NAME)

(signature of student athlete, manager, or cheerleader)

(date)

- ☐ As parent or guardian of the above signatory athlete, manager or cheerleader, I have reviewed the Student Athletic Handbook and understand the rules within.
- ☐ I have been made aware of, read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the information contained in the WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin. I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in the document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this acknowledgement.
- ☐ I grant permission for any medical records pertaining to the health of the above Student be made available as necessary to the proper district personnel, most notably the athletic trainer contracted by the school.
- ☐ I have read the School District Media Policy and will allow my child's likeness and name to be released to the media. (IF YOU DO NOT CHECK THIS BOX, WE WILL NOT RELEASE YOUR CHILD'S LIKENESS WITH THEIR NAME)
- ☐ I, the parent/guardian of the student athlete named above, hereby acknowledge having received education about the signs, symptoms, and risks of sport related concussion. I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the information contained in the concussion documents. I further certify that if I have not understood any of the concussion information, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement.
- ☐ I understand that I take full responsibility for all equipment issued to my son/daughter, including reimbursement to the school district for any items lost or stolen during the season.

(signature of parent/guardian)

(date)

Please sign above and return to your coach or the high school office!

The Student Athletic Handbook should be kept with your schoolbooks in your school locker during the school year.