

School District of Solon Springs  
Extra-Curricular Handbook  
2020-2021



## **INTRODUCTION**

The extracurricular program in the Solon Springs School District is to be implemented in accordance with the general goals and philosophies of the Solon Springs School System.

Extracurricular involvement facilitates personal growth by developing leadership, self-esteem, and sportsmanship, as well as habits and attitudes that will prepare students to meet future challenges. The purpose of this handbook is to provide the basic framework upon which we can build our extracurricular program to best enhance the education of all participants. By following the guidelines set forth here we will be on our way to a successful year.

We encourage all students in the Solon Springs School District to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities and assist in making each program a success. The opportunity to participate in school extracurricular programs comes along once in a lifetime; don't let it pass you by!

Mr. Nathan Ahlberg  
Athletic Director

## **PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETIC COACHING**

The purpose of this philosophy is to provide goals and direction to adults working with student athletes in the Solon Springs School District.

Athletic programs are voluntary, educational opportunities in this district.

### **GOALS:**

1. Good sportsmanship and rules of fair play
2. Teamwork
3. Esprit
4. Self-esteem and emotional growth
5. Goal setting - team and individual
6. Leadership skills
7. Knowledge of rules and game strategy
8. Physical skills

Winning is not for the glorification of the coach, team, student, or parent - it is one of the outcomes of competition. This is not to say that winning is not important. Winning is, and must be, a goal of competition. This school

district encourages the coach to use all players in trying to win.

This Extra-Curricular Handbook has been adopted as a policy by the Solon Springs School Board. The purpose of this policy is to insure that student participants, and parents of participants, know and support the regulations governing the student's' involvement. To make this phase of their education more meaningful, you and your son/daughter are to sign and return the form that appears at the end of this document. This must be completed before they will be permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics.

List of programs covered by this handbook:

Cross Country, Jr. High Basketball, High School Basketball, Volleyball, Jr. High Volleyball, Softball, Baseball, Football co-op with Northwood, Track and Field.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Ethical and behavioral ideals, principles, and standards including, but are not limited to: negative and/or illegal acts against a person or property, and involvement in acts which are viewed as contrary to accepted moral and legal standards including severe profanity, abusive language, vandalism (damage with intent), fighting, cheating on tests or school work, and theft. This also includes the use, possession, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages, tobacco and illegal drugs. These rules apply to both on and off school grounds. Any incidents of violations or repeated violations, regardless of when they occur, will be considered as separate violations. (After the initial violation, all subsequent violations will build upon the previous level.)

**The code shall be in force 12 months of the year. Students will complete the season to fulfill the suspension. The suspension will carry over from one season to the next if not completed during the current season.**

### **VIOLATIONS**

Students should understand that through the extracurricular program the school is serious about teaching that inappropriate conduct and chemical abuse are not in a person's best interest.

Violations are cumulative up to two years. If an athlete has not had a violation in two years the athlete will again begin at violation one. Violations will not carry over from the middle school.

An athlete that is suspended for a code of conduct violation may continue to practice and attend games as team member at the discretion of the coaching staff, unless otherwise noted.

**LEVEL 1 VIOLATIONS-** Level 1 violations include behavior that generally results in a suspension (in-or-out of school) or behavior that is contrary to the generally recognized moral and ethical standards. These violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Misconduct requiring correction by a supervising adult.
- B. Found in the presence of (such as at a party) the use of illegal chemicals, drugs, beverages, or substances.
- C. Suspension (in-or-out of school).

#### PENALTIES FOR LEVEL 1 VIOLATION

FIRST OFFENSE: Suspension of up to 25% of scheduled competitions. e.g. basketball: 22 scheduled games = up to 5 ½ game suspension.

SECOND OFFENSE: Suspension of up to 50% of scheduled competitions. e.g. volleyball: 15 scheduled matches = up to 7 ½ match suspension.

THIRD OFFENSE: Suspended from all programs for up to one calendar year.

Penalties to be enforced as soon as possible after a violation. Length of suspension to be determined by the Extra-Curricular Council.

**LEVEL 2 VIOLATIONS-** Level 2 violations generally include those that could result in **legal consequences** for students. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Gross misconduct requiring the attention of the Extra-Curricular Council<sup>1</sup> (harassment, fighting, etc.).
- B. Criminal charges (theft, vandalism, etc.)
- C. Consumption, possession, distribution, or sale of, alcohol, tobacco products (includes vape/e-cigarettes), performance enhancement drugs or illegal mood altering chemicals.

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<sup>1</sup> Extra-Curricular Council shall consist of one coach (not the coach of the sport from which a student has possible disciplinary action), the athletic director, one member of the teaching staff, and the principal.

## PENALTIES FOR LEVEL 2 VIOLATION

### FIRST OFFENSE:

A suspension from 50% of all scheduled competitions, unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and violator fully cooperates with any investigation. In this case, the penalty may be reduced to 25%.

The following also apply for Violation C of Level 2

- A. Complete a 10-week AODA program. The student must attend weekly counseling sessions with full participation until the next start of AODA program, in order to continue with any athletic program.

**Any student who does not fully participate or misses AODA counseling sessions without reasonable cause will be given an immediate 90-school day suspension from athletics.**

### SECOND OFFENSE:

A suspension from 100% of all scheduled competitions, unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and violator fully cooperates with any investigation. In this case, the penalty may be reduced to 50%.

Attend weekly AODA counseling sessions for 90 days, if applicable.

### THIRD OFFENSE:

Suspension from extracurricular activities for one calendar year.

Student may NOT participate in practices during the time of suspension and will not attend games as a team member.

## A. AODA PHILOSOPHY:

The Solon Springs School District recognizes that the use of mind-altering chemicals is a significant health problem for many adolescents which has negative effects on behavior, learning, and personal development. Adolescent chemical use and abuse affects skill development related to participation in extracurricular activities. We also feel that students should understand that through the extracurricular program the school is serious about teaching that chemical use is not in a person's best interest.

## B. DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS:

**ELIGIBLE:** to qualify, meets all requirements set by this handbook to be allowed to practice and participate.

**INELIGIBLE:** not qualified, doesn't meet all requirements set by this handbook, not allowed to practice or participate until eligible status is obtained.

**ACADEMIC PROBATION:** Athlete who has not met academic requirements. Athlete is subject to weekly grade checks. Athlete will be suspended if they are not passing all classes. Athlete may resume competition when they pass the weekly grade report.

**ATHLETE:** any student who participates in any school sanctioned sport as a participant or manager.

**DEFICIENCY:** doesn't meet the requirements, work is unsatisfactory.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** absences which are classified as excused by the student handbook or by the administration.

## **REQUIREMENTS, RULES AND GUIDELINES**

Rules for athletic participation: The following set of rules, requirements and guidelines will be enforced by the entire Solon Springs Coaching Staff in all athletic organizations for the entire year. Any appeals regarding suspension from an athletic organization or event shall follow "Due Process" in appendix B as stated in this handbook. The school year is defined as the school calendar as set by the school board.

### REQUIREMENTS

1. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must have on file in the athletic director's office a completed copy of the physical exam form. This form must be renewed every other year. The second year a signed copy of the WIAA alternate year card must be on file.
2. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must have on file in the athletic director's office a signed WIAA rules of eligibility form. (Enclosed at the end of this handbook)
3. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must be educated on the signs and symptoms of concussions. The athlete and parent/guardian must then sign the "Statement Acknowledging

Receipt of Education and Responsibility" form prior to the beginning of each athletic season.

4. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must be passing in all academics and maintain a minimum quarterly grade point average of 2.0.
  - a. Students who fail to meet the academic requirements will be suspended for the first 15 days of the following academic term as mandated by the WIAA. Athlete will be placed on academic probation for the duration of the academic term (see definition above).
  - b. A suspension from the 4th quarter of one academic year will carry over to the 1st quarter of the following academic year. The maximum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of:
    - 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of the earliest allowed competition in a sport
    - One-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport
  
5. At mid-term or D-slip time, students must be passing all academics to continue participation.
  - Any athlete failing at mid-term will be suspended until passing all classes. Athlete will be placed on academic probation for the duration of the academic term (see definition above).
    - a. A student who is enrolled in an EEN program is subject to the grade requirements listed above. The student and a parent/guardian may request a review of the ineligibility by a faculty review committee. This committee shall be appointed by the principal and shall be made up of the student's special education instructor, a classroom teacher, the guidance counselor and the principal.
    - b. The student may become eligible if this committee determines that the student is making satisfactory progress in his/her total school program as indicated by the I.E.P.
    - c. A student who presents a doctor's excuse for a learning handicap (other than an Exceptional Educational Need) may go before the review committee if that student is academically ineligible or if he/she receives a grade point average less than 2.0 or a failing grade on a deficiency notice. The student and parent/guardian may request a review of the ineligibility by a faculty review committee. This committee

shall be appointed by the principal and shall be made up of the student's instructor, a classroom teacher, the guidance counselor and the principal.

6. Injured athletes are to be in attendance at all practice sessions unless excused by the coach.
7. An athlete who does not participate in practice (s) or competition on the recommendation of a physician will require written notification from a physician to return to competition.
8. Attendance at the seasonal sport informational meetings is required for each athlete and a parent or guardian. Failure to attend the required meetings will result in the athlete being ineligible for 30% of the games and practices. Those who cannot attend due to an emergency situation should contact the athletic director to make other arrangements. Parents/students who are absent from the meeting two consecutive years will cause the athlete to be ineligible for an entire sport season.
9. Athletes are responsible for getting assignments from their teachers and submitting work to the teacher before they leave for a sporting event. Sixth graders participating in junior high sports, will be required to complete weekly progress reports during their season(s) of participation. If a student has a failing grade or at least two D's, the student will be suspended for at least one week. When satisfactory grade progress has been verified by the student's teachers, he/she may return to participation.

### **RULES**

1. Any possession or use of alcohol or a controlled substance during the entire school year is prohibited by any athlete.
2. All detentions and after-school suspensions must be made up when assigned. If not, the athlete will be excluded from game participation until made up.
3. An athlete who is absent for any portion of the school day must present a physician or dentist appointment card or a note from the physician's office in order to practice or participate in a game. The athlete may participate if absent for the following: funeral, court appointment, driver's test. (The student should be prepared to present written verification of such absence.)

4. All athletes/participants are required to travel to and from out-of-town events with the team. Exceptions to this rule will be made upon presentation of a valid written parent request, verified by the principal, presented to the coach. Parents/guardians may transport their own children home from an out-of-town event by signing the school form that each coach carries for this purpose. Signing of this form is to be done by the parent only and will be done only at the conclusion of the game for that child.
5. Any accusations regarding alleged violations by any one or more athletes must be presented in written form to the coach of that sport and the athletic director. Appendix B (Due Process Procedures) will be followed.
6. An athlete who verbally or physically attacks a coach shall be suspended from athletic participation for the period of one calendar year.
7. Clothing and attire for practices. In most cases, the guidelines from the Board approved Student Handbook regarding dress and appearance are adequate to cover this situation. The practice of wearing clothing that reveals undergarments is not permitted by the handbook. In specific instances, such as Cross Country, the clothing manufactured for practice of this sport may not adhere to our Handbook guidelines. For example: the race back tops/shirts made for running would be in violation of our code. Such items will be left to the discretion of the coach of that sport, with final approval or denial coming from the athletic director.
8. The lettering criteria and awarding of letters, for each individual sport will be determined by the head coach of that sport and the athletic director. Coaches will follow these guidelines when awarding letters:
  - a. The athlete must follow the procedures outlines in the Extra-Curricular Handbook.
  - b. The athlete must comply with all high school and WIAA regulations.
  - c. The athlete must complete the season. (Varsity athletes who are physically unable to complete the season due to injury will be given special consideration.)
  - d. The athlete must show team spirit through effort, dedication and

cooperation with the team members and coaches.

- e. The athlete must have attended all games and practices unless excused by the coach.
9. Fifth grade students will be able to participate in middle school basketball and volleyball if needed to fill out two full teams. This will be determined by the coach and athletic director.
10. Fifth grade students will be able to participate in middle school cross country when they meet the eligibility rules, requirements and guidelines. Fifth grade students will compete under the following guidelines:
- a. Fifth graders can practice anytime the middle school team practices.
  - b. Fifth graders can run any meet held on a non-school day.
  - c. Fifth graders can compete in the Drummond Invitational
  - d. Fifth graders may compete in the South Shore Invitational (typically the final meet for MS cross country) under the following conditions:
    - i. Cross country coaches feel **all** fifth grade runners will benefit from and be able to withstand the continuation of their season.
    - ii. The fifth grade teacher(s) feel **all** fifth grade runners are keeping up with academic and classroom demands and will be able to withstand the continuation of their season.
    - iii. There have been no other disciplinary issues with fifth grade runners.

*Criteria for letter winners have been established by the coaches and athletic director as follows:*

SOFTBALL:

A player must play in twenty percent (20%) of the innings at the varsity level.

BASKETBALL:

A player must play in twenty-five percent (25%) of the quarters at the varsity level.

BASEBALL:

A player must play in twenty percent (20%) of the innings at the varsity level.

VOLLEYBALL:

A player must play in twenty-five percent (25%) of the games at the varsity level.

CROSS COUNTRY:

A runner must compete in twenty-five (25%) of the varsity races.

FOOTBALL:

To be determined by the Northwood High School athletic guidelines.

JUNIOR VARSITY: Certificates of participation will be given to junior varsity players who successfully complete the season.

FOR ALL:

Members of a regional championship team shall all earn letters.

Students with an injury or medical excuse may not be able to participate, but must still attend games and practices. Medical notifications for non-participation or to be released from attending practices and games must be presented to the athletic director.

To earn a letter or certificate, all athletes must adhere to all training rules and athletic code.

It will be up to the coach's or advisor's discretion to award special letters.

Team managers may be awarded letters at the coach's' discretion.

Athletic Awards are given as follows:

The first time any athlete receives a letter award they also receive an emblem patch of the sport in which the letter was earned and a chevron that indicates a first letter was earned. In the following years, after earning the first letter award and patch, the athlete receives only a chevron to be added to that from the previous year(s).

An athlete lettering in more than one varsity sport can receive only one letter patch; but an emblem patch of the sport in which the letter was earned and a chevron is to be awarded to the athlete in each sport for which the athlete earns a letter.

A single eligibility list will be established giving the names of athletes participating. This list will be distributed to all teachers. At any time a teacher feels an athlete has a deficiency, the teacher will contact the coach

and/or athletic director. The athlete will have the following week to make up the deficiency. After one week, the student will be ineligible.

NOTE: The coach will file with the athletic director a statement referring any athletes who have unused portions of punishment. Disciplinary action will carry over from one sport to the next and from one school year to the next. Disciplinary action and total violations will not carry from junior high to senior high.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **WIAA RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. All WIAA rules and regulations will be followed except those exceeded by the foregoing. Infractions will be dealt with according to WIAA regulations.
2. The WIAA states that each school district will have an athletic code approved by the board of education on file.
3. The WIAA states each student participant shall be entitled to a due process in the event he/she feels a wrong decision has been made. The right of due process is guaranteed.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE RELATED TO ATHLETIC CODE**

"Due Process" is a procedure which 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 recourse in the event he feels a wrong decision has been made. The "due process" steps outlined hereafter is the procedure for an athlete and his/her parents to following 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/her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the athletic director provided an appeal is received within five (5) days from the first day such ineligibility shall take effect. When the student admits to violating the school's athletic code of conduct, immediate application of the penalty is appropriate. If, however, the student denies violating

the code, the school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to any penalty being enforced.

2. The athletic director within three (3) days of receipt of such written appeal shall formalize the ineligibility decision in writing and 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 (7) days after receipt of the written appeal of the athlete and his/her parents. Present at the hearing, in addition to the athletic director, principal, and/or superintendent of the school, shall be the athlete and the parents and head coach of the 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 hearing before the Board of Education within five (5) days of the mailing of the outcome of the original 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 WIAA may be requested through the school. The athletic director or principal must receive in writing a request for such a review by the Executive Office of the WIAA within five (5) 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 WIAA, shall also enclose a copy of the (a) original appeal letter from the athlete and parents; (b) school's formal reply outlining violation or infraction leading to ineligibility status; and (c) proceedings of both hearings.
  - a. The Executive Office of the WIAA will inform the athletic

director or principal of the school for the outcome of its review within seven (7) days after receiving from the school the written appeal of the athlete and his/her parents.

- b. The athlete and his/her parents will be mailed a copy of the outcome of the review by the Executive Office of the WIAA.
6. If the athlete and his/her parents remain dissatisfied with the findings of the review by the Executive Office of WIAA, they may appeal in writing through the school for either a review by, or at a hearing before, the Board of Control of the WIAA through the Executive Office of the WIAA. The athletic director or principal must receive the written request for such a review or hearing within fourteen (14) days of the mailing of the review by the Executive Office of the WIAA
  - a. Board of Control will act on a request for a hearing no later than its first regularly scheduled meeting after receiving the written appeal through the school.
  - b. If requested by the athlete, his/her parents or the athletic director or principal of the school, the Board of Control will convene via conference telephone call to review an appeal with the understanding that the expense for such a conference telephone call is the responsibility of the parents of the athlete.
  - c. In the event of a hearing, the athlete and his/her parents will be given the opportunity to testify and present other evidence, and the school will be represented by any individuals deemed appropriate by the superintendent.
  - d. Proceedings of the hearings, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings, including the decision will be provided for the athlete and his/her parents.
7. The provisions as outlined above shall be the sole and exclusive remedy for appeal from the rulings referred to in paragraph 1.

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of the Solon Springs School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap as required by s.118.13, WI Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1963 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For the protection of our athletes, participation in practice of any sport will not be permitted until this signature page, WIAA Eligibility page, concussion education page, and a completed physical card have been submitted to the athletic director.

## 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.

<p><b>These are some SIGNS concussion (what others can see in an injured athlete):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dazed or stunned appearance</li> <li>Change in the level of consciousness or awareness</li> <li>Confused about assignment</li> <li>Forgets plays</li> <li>Unsure of score, game, opponent</li> <li>Clumsy</li> <li>Answers more slowly than usual</li> <li>Shows behavior changes</li> <li>Loss of consciousness</li> <li>Asks repetitive questions or memory concerns</li> </ul>	<p><b>These are some of the more common SYMPTOMS of concussion (what an injured athlete feels):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Headache</li> <li>Nausea</li> <li>Dizzy or unsteady</li> <li>Sensitive to light or noise</li> <li>Feeling mentally foggy</li> <li>Problems with concentration and memory</li> <li>Confused</li> <li>Slow</li> </ul>
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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#tb4>



**2020-2021 High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin**

To: Student-Athletes and Their Parents

**Solon Springs H.S.**

From: Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and \_\_\_\_\_

(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](http://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, and 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 2020-2021 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 school's 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 sixth 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 sixth 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 sixth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total and complete 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. 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. Students entering 11th grade are restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year.
- D. Students entering 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- E. 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.
- F. 10th or 11<sup>th</sup> 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).
- G. 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 sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- H. District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supercede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-sixth semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the sixth 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.

- I. Unless transfer, including an accompanying total and complete 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.
- J. If within the first six 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 sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.
- K. 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 and complete move.
- L. 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. A student who transfers due to expulsion or removal for disciplinary reason from the previous school is ineligible for the length of the expulsion as determined by the previous school's Board of Education.
- M. 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. Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.).
- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. A student-athlete, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is also suspended from the next competitive event at the same level of competition as the disqualification.
- G. 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.
- H. A school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to a penalty being enforced (except for felony charges). If a student appeals a suspension, according to the school's appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.
- I. 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 salary, cash or share of game or season proceeds 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: a medal, cup, trophy or plaque from the sponsoring organization regardless of cost; school mementos valued not more than \$200; an award valued not more than \$100 retail for participation in an athletic contest in a WIAA recognized sport; and may retain non-school competition apparel worn by the student as part of the team uniform.
- 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.
- D. A student-athlete may not receive free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students.

- E. 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.
- F. 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**

Athletes may compete in not more than two non-school competitions with prior school approval during each regular sport season. The contest(s) will not count against the individual maximum for the athlete in that sport. Nonschool competition will not be allowed during the respective WIAA tournament series in a sport. Violation of this rule results in loss of eligibility for the remainder of the season (including the WIAA tournament series) and forfeiture of the two non-school opportunities.

- 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 more than two nonschool competitions or races, including scrimmages against other teams (with school approval).
  - (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 100% of 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. All sports except football 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.***

4/2020

**Detach and Return to Athletic Director**

**PARENT-ATHLETE RULES OF ELIGIBILITY SIGN-OFF FORM – 2020-2021**

I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the information contained in this bulletin. I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in this document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement.

Solon Springs H.S

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete’s Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This form must be completed and submitted to the Athletic Director prior to a student being declared eligible to practice and compete.**

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE EXTRA-CURRICULAR HANDBOOK.

Athlete/Participant Signature:\* \_\_\_\_\_

Print Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Solon Springs Junior/High School

**Statement Acknowledging Receipt of Education and Responsibility to report signs or symptoms of concussion to be included as part of the "Participant and Parental Disclosure and Consent Document".**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of Solon Springs Junior/High School  
*Student/Athlete Name*

hereby acknowledge having received education about the signs, symptoms, and risks of sport related concussion. I also acknowledge 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 this sheet. I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in this document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*signature and printed name of student/athlete* *Date*

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 this sheet. I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in this document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*signature and printed name of parent/guardian* *Date*