

2025-2026

STUDENT/ATHLETE HANDBOOK



TOGETHER - Preparing every student for future success

Board of Education
541 West 34th Street
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

Telephone: (440) 992-1200
Fax: (440) 992-1209
Web Site: www.aacs.net

Table of Contents

1. PRE-SEASON PARENT / ATHLETE MEETINGS

Co-Curricular Code of Conduct
Student Handbook
Co-Curricular Activities
Scope of the Code of Conduct

2. ATHLETIC CHAIN OF COMMAND

Eligibility Rules
Attendance
Activity Conflicts

3. SEMESTERS OF ENROLLMENT

Insurance
Concussion Resources
Equipment
Transportation

4. CODE OF CONDUCT INFRACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Student Athletes
Disciplinary Procedures
Consequences for Violation to the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct
Penalties for Violation of Athletic Code of Conduct
First Offense
Second Offense
Third Offense
Subsequent Offenses

5. OTHER RELEVANT REGULATIONS/CONSEQUENCES FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Special Awards Restriction
Hosting A Party
Severity Clause
Suspended Students

In-School Assignment
Suspension Calculations
Penalties Are Cumulative
Process for Determining Violation of Rules
Additional Penalty Information

6. INELIGIBLE STUDENT-ATHLETES

7. SELECTING THE TEAM

8. EXPRESSING PARENTAL CONCERNS

9. ATHLETES INVOLVED IN UNSPORTING BEHAVIOR WITH FANS

10. ASHTABULA AREA CITY SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

Public Attendance at School Events

11.OFF/PRE SEASON (open gym, strength and conditioning)

12.PRACTICE SESSIONS

Inclement Weather Procedures for Athletics

Lakeside Junior High School

Lakeside High School

Closed for Cold Temperatures

School Closed for Snow/Ice Accumulation (Morning)

School Closed for Snow/Ice Accumulation (Afternoon/Evening)

Ashtabula Area City Schools Mission Statement for Athletics

The Ashtabula Area City Schools support the philosophy that a quality interscholastic athletic program is vital to the positive social, physical, and educational development of students. The interscholastic athletic program enhances and supports the academic mission of the school system. We are committed to promoting the proper ideal of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play at all athletic contests. We support high standards of good citizenship and propriety, along with regard for the rights of others. Furthermore, we support diversification over specialization regarding interscholastic participation by student-athletes.

The Athletic Administration, coaches, and players will perpetually work together on a plan of continual improvement for playing excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of good sportsmanship.

Participation in interscholastic sports is a voluntary privilege. Such participation will always be based on healthy competition between team members for starting positions and playing time. An attitude of entitlement, on the part of any team member, has absolutely no place in any of our athletic programs.

All interscholastic sports in the Ashtabula Area City Schools are team sports. Consequently, while our various programs will continually stress individual development, it will always be within the framework and emphasis on the Team. Each time participants step into a school or onto the practice field and anytime they participate in a contest they are expected to represent themselves, family, team, school, and community in a responsible, sportsmanlike manner.

Interscholastic sports in the Ashtabula Area City Schools are meant to develop character, sportsmanship, self-confidence, teamwork, unselfishness, responsibility, leadership, competitive spirit, decision-making, and physical skills through the processes of hard work, commitment, and loyalty. Below is a brief synopsis of each of the aforementioned qualities:

- Character: strong-minded, ability to deal with adversity, disciplined, a strong work ethic; portrays moral and ethical strength
- Sportsmanship: being graceful in both victory and defeat, constantly mindful of team, school, and community representation
- Self-Confidence: the side-effect of hard work, attentiveness, and learning; competence
- Teamwork: the sense of togetherness, unity, acceptance, and trust
- Unselfishness: to give of oneself, to sacrifice in an attempt to come to the aid of others
- Responsibility: taking care of business; fulfilling one's duties and obligations

while accepting the consequences of individual mistakes without blaming others; finishing what one starts

- Leadership: being self-aware and acknowledging the fact that the very nature of interscholastic competition draws attention to oneself; the ability to set a positive example for others to follow
- Competitive Spirit: relentlessness, resilience, faith, and a positive attitude; the drive to succeed
- Decision Making: thinking before acting; weighing the consequences of actions before taking action; the awareness of right and wrong
- Physical Skills: strength, power, agility, coordination, balance, speed, and endurance

PRE-SEASON PARENT / ATHLETE MEETINGS

All coaches will conduct pre-season parent / athlete meetings per OHSAA Guidelines. 100% attendance by parents and athletes is our goal. We keep records, per the OHSAA guidelines. All meetings will be held in advance of the official season starting date and prior to any team selections which may be made.

During such meetings, the following will be addressed by our coaches:

1. AACS Student-Athletes Handbook: The criteria by which teams may be selected.
2. The completion of all paperwork in Final Forms are **MANDATORY** in order for students to participate.
3. Practice and contest schedules.
4. Optional Student Insurance.
5. Questions from parents.

Co-Curricular Code of Conduct Preface/Philosophy

Co-curricular activities are activities in which students appear, perform, and/or compete as representatives of Ashtabula Area City School District (hereafter "Lakeside").

Examples of these include, but are not limited to, athletics, cheerleading, drama, and student council. Activities in which students represent

Lakeside as an extension of a course requirement for which students receive a grade are governed by the Student Handbook and are not considered co-curricular activities. Examples of these include concert band, and concert choir.

Co-curricular activities provide the opportunity for all students to develop their talents to the highest level possible. Therefore, Lakeside is committed to offering a wide variety of activities. While it is difficult to measure, the educational value of co-curricular participation is extensive. Students not only develop physical, mental, and social skills, but also develop positive values and attitudes that they will take with them into their adult life.

Students participating in co-curricular activities officially represent Lakeside. Because

of this, these students have privileges and bear responsibilities which are greater than those afforded to students not participating in co-curricular activities at Lakeside. This code incorporates the standards and guidelines for eligibility and participation established by both the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) and the Ashtabula Area City School District.

The Lakeside administration reserves the right to make policies and decisions as needed to address specific issues that arise which may not be explicitly covered in this code.

Student Handbook

While involved with any co-curricular activity, a student is subject to the enforcement of the student code-of-conduct outlined in the Student Handbook.

Co-Curricular Activities

This list may not be all inclusive; other activities may fall under this code as well.

Baseball Basketball (Boys and Girls) Bowling (Boys and Girls) Cheerleading Cross Country (Boys and Girls) Golf (Boys and Girls) Football	Soccer (Boys and Girls) Softball Swimming (Boys and Girls) Tennis (Boys and Girls) Track and Field (Boys and Girls) Volleyball Wrestling
--	--

Scope of the Code of Conduct

The provisions outlined in this policy shall be in effect twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, for the duration of the season (first day of practice until the last game or awards ceremony/banquet; whichever is later). This includes sports which commence before the beginning of the school year or extend beyond the end of the school year. For all other clubs and organizations enforcement will begin with the first meeting through the end of the school year. Violations are cumulative throughout the athlete's two years of junior high (7th-8th) participation and four years of high school (9th-12th) participation and disciplinary actions may carry over from one season to another.

A statement signed annually by both student and parents/guardians indicating an understanding of the Code must be returned to the coach/advisor by each participant by the first day of practice or activity. These statements are to be collected by the coach or advisor/director and submitted to the building principal.

ATHLETIC CHAIN OF COMMAND

Within the Ashtabula Area City Schools, the following chain of command is in effect:

1. Coach
2. Athletic Director 440-993-2489
3. Principal 440-993-2525
4. Superintendent 440-992-1201
5. Board of Education 440-993-2500

If there are any questions or concerns involving some aspect of our athletic program, the athlete should first contact the appropriate coach. If there is no resolution, he/she would then go to the head coach. If the head coach is unable to resolve the issue, the athlete would continue to follow the Athletic Chain of Command listed above.

Eligibility Rules

1. The athletic director will verify eligibility for student athletes each grading period.
2. Once a student attains the age of 20, the student will no longer be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition notwithstanding where that 20th birthday falls in relation to the sports season.
3. If a student enrolled in grade 7 or 8 attains the age of 15 before August 1, the student shall be ineligible to participate in 7-8th grade interscholastic athletics for the school year commencing in that calendar year.
 - a. In order to be eligible in grades 9-12, a student must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediate preceding grading period. **During the preceding grading period, the student, must have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent which count towards graduation and must have earned a 1.5 grade point average or higher.**
 - b. Students who have passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent, but their GPA falls in the 1.0-1.49 range will be required to attend 1 hour of study tables per week to gain athletic eligibility.
 - c. Incoming 9th grade students must have received passing grades in a minimum of four one-credit courses or the equivalent and must have earned a 1.5 GPA or higher.
4. A student enrolling in the seventh grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of the previous academic achievement. Thereafter, in order to be eligible, a student in grades 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that grading period in 4 one-credit classes or the equivalent of those subjects in which the student received grades and must have earned a 1.5 grade point average or higher.

5. A student in grades 7-12 will be excluded from participating in interscholastic activities if he/she has less than a 1.5 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale unless he/she is enrolled in an **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY INTERVENTION PLAN**, has a grade point average between 1.0 and 1.49, and adheres to the Athletic Eligibility Intervention Plan Guidelines.
6. The eligibility of a student continues until the fifth school day of the next grading period. At this time, eligibility is determined by the grades earned during the preceding grading period.
7. Summer School and other educational options may **NOT** be used to substitute for failure to meet the academic standards during the last grading period of the school year.
8. Every student who tries out for a team must have passed a physical examination by a physician. Physical Forms may be obtained in the school office and these cards must be completed and dated by a physician and returned to the athletic director before the opening day of the sport.
9. Athletic participants must carry either school insurance or have a waiver form signed by a parent/guardian.
10. Students must follow all rules and regulations established by OHSAA, Chagrin Valley Conference, The Lakeside Campus administrators and staff, and the Board of Education.
11. Students must demonstrate sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity as a representative of The Lakeside Campus. Co-curricular participation is a privilege, not a right.

Attendance

1. A student must be in school no later than 10:12 a.m. to practice, or compete. If a student is not well enough to attend school, he/she is not well enough to participate in any contests. Students who are not in attendance for their scheduled day may forfeit their right to participate in contests. Students who receive advanced administrative approval may not be subject to the above guidelines. (e.g., field trips, funerals, college visits). The exception is an excused absence deemed by AACCS.
2. If a student is truant from an assigned class period(s), he/she forfeits his/her opportunity to perform, or compete in the next scheduled contest after which the administration becomes aware of the truancy.
3. Students may not compete, perform, or practice on days of an out- of-school suspension. Students may not attend an event on the days of an out-of-school

suspension. Students who have been sent to In-School Assignment will have athletic attendance decided by school administration.

4. Students are required to be in all classes the day after a contest or competition. If he/she has an unexcused absence or if there is a pattern of absences whether excused or unexcused the student will forfeit their right to participate in the next scheduled contest.
5. In the event that practices, performances, events, and games are scheduled during school vacation times, it is an expectation that each participating student will dedicate himself/herself to such activities and meet his/her coach's expectations.
6. Students suspended from athletic contests are expected to remain as part of the team or group unless otherwise stated by the Principal or his/her designee. Due to the diversity of activities, it will be up to the advisor or coach to determine what level of involvement the student will have in the group and whether or not the student will be required to attend all contests and activities. Members of athletic teams may be required to attend all contests, practices, and team activities and be a non-participant during the time of their suspension. Athletes not in attendance at a contest or activity will not have the contest counted as one of the suspension contests.
7. Students displaying a pattern of habitual tardiness to a specific class will be referred to the building administration and will not be allowed to practice or compete until the situation is resolved.
8. All practices and meetings must be supervised by a coach/advisor and must conclude by 10:00 p.m., unless approval is received by the Athletic Director.
9. Student-Athletes not under the supervision of school personnel should leave the building by 2:15 p.m. Student-athletes must be supervised at all times after school dismissal.

Activity Conflicts

- The following guidelines should be used to determine a student's participation when a conflict arises:
- An athletic contest has priority over any practice or rehearsal.
- When two events of equal value conflict the student and his/her coaches will work out a plan regarding practices/contests to accommodate the requirements of co-participation. As a part of said plan, the student shall declare which sport shall be primary when conflicts arise regarding actual contests. All participants in the formulation of the Co-Participation Plan will sign said plan and a copy will be sent to the student's parent(s) guardian(s).
- Any conflicts arising from the Co-Participation Plan will be brought to the attention of the Director of Athletics who will act as a mediator.
- Academic related events (i.e. events in which a grade is determined by a student's performance) supersede all other activities.
- Students are to inform coaches/advisors of conflicts as soon as they become aware. Extenuating circumstances can be brought to the attention of the Principal

or his/her designee for further consideration.

- Work or other outside school commitments while in-season are expected to work around the expectations of that sport. Any conflicts should be brought to the attention of the Director of Athletics who will act as a mediator.

Semesters of Enrollment

After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, a student is permitted eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility.

- The semesters are taken in order of attendance, once ninth-grade eligibility has been established.
- Semesters are counted toward eligibility whether the student participates in interscholastic athletics or not.
- Those with a disability may qualify for an exception to this regulation and should arrange a meeting with the principal or athletic administrator to review the exception.

Insurance

Annually, the Ashtabula Area City Schools offers low cost Student Insurance in case of accident or injury. Traditionally, these plans provide cash benefits to help meet the cost of medical and hospital expenses. If you have other insurance, these plans will help meet the deductibles and coinsurance gaps in those plans. If you have no other insurance, these plans will provide low cost, basic coverage. Furthermore, these plans will cover your child for the entire school year and throughout the summer months – right up to the day school re-opens. Students who participate in interscholastic sports are required to have insurance coverage. Injuries occur, and it is the recommendation of the Athletic Department that all parents be advised as to the opportunity to purchase these plans.

Concussion Resources

Please see exhibit A at the conclusion of this handbook for Concussion Resources and Guidance.

Equipment

Students who are issued equipment/uniforms for the purpose of interscholastic participation will have that equipment recorded on a standard athletic Equipment Issue Form. Each student will sign said form at the time of equipment issue. From that moment on, responsibility for the care, safeguarding, and return of any issued

equipment falls on the shoulders of the student. Should the student fail to return any issued equipment at the conclusion of participation in any sport, the student is financially responsible for the replacement of any missing equipment. Should such a situation arise, the student in question shall be reported to the Director of Athletics and will have his/her name placed on the Debt List until the situation is rectified. This Debt List will follow the student-athlete during their School Career at AACS (7th-12th).

Students who wish to borrow equipment/uniforms for the purpose of Senior Pictures shall contact the Director of Athletics with said request. Students will be expected to once again sign an Equipment Issue Form. Students will return any issued equipment within a reasonable period of time to the Director of Athletics or face the consequences outlined above. It is preferred that students request such equipment/uniforms at least one week prior to Senior Pictures being taken.

Transportation

1. All student-athletes must travel to and from all scheduled scrimmages and contests in transportation provided by the athletic department unless the parent(s) make previous written arrangements for an exceptional situation with the head coach.
2. Student-athletes must adhere to all transportation guidelines as established by the Board of Education.
3. A student-athlete who misses a scheduled bus trip to an out-of-town scrimmage or contest will not be permitted to participate in said contest unless there are extenuating circumstances.
4. Student-athletes must adhere to all behavioral expectations set forth in the Student Handbook.
5. In the event a bus is not available or the group is too small to warrant the use of a bus, consideration may be given to using private automobiles under the following stipulations:
 - a. A permission slip will be signed by the parent/guardian of all student-athletes who are affected.
 - b. Driving will be limited to an instructor, coach, staff member, parent, or a representative from the Ashtabula Area City School District

CODE OF CONDUCT INFRACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Student Athletes:

Students are expected to follow all school rules and to display high standards of behavior, including good sportsmanship, respect for others, and use of appropriate language and dress at all times. Students must refrain from any conduct at any time that

would reflect unsatisfactorily on him/her or the school. Conduct which would reflect unsatisfactorily on a student or on the school includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. A criminal offense or violation of an ordinance having a statutory counterpart. Possession, use, sale, transfer, distribution or purchase of any controlled substance/intoxicant or drug paraphernalia, illegal drugs, mood altering substances, anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing substances or prescribed medications used in a manner other than that for which it was prescribed.
2. Possession, use, sale, transfer, distribution or purchase of any alcohol.
3. Discrimination, harassment, violence, aggression or threatening behavior to others.
4. Purchase, use or possession of tobacco or nicotine products in any form, including e-cigarettes and vaping devices.
5. Hosting, sponsoring, or organizing a party/gathering at which alcohol or drugs are being used, consumed or offered.
6. Representation of themselves or others, inappropriately or unlawfully on the internet. This would include blog sites, on-line profiles, instant messaging, etc.
7. Vandalism
8. Any situation or problem that may arise that is not specifically covered above may be reviewed by the Lakeside administration for possible action. Coaches/advisors may adopt appropriate rules and disciplinary action for violations of team/activity rules. However, these rules must not be in conflict with the Athletic Code of Conduct and must be approved by the building administration.

Disciplinary Procedures

1. The Athletic Director (for athletics) or Lakeside Administrator (for activities) will meet with the student to determine the validity of an alleged infraction.
2. The student and parent/guardian will be informed of the nature of the accusation, decision, and consequence.
3. The Athletic Director (for athletics) or Lakeside Administrator (for activities) will contact the parent when a suspension is imposed for a violation of the code of conduct.

Consequences for Violation to the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct

Failure to abide by established rules shall result in withdrawal of the privilege to participate. For any violation, the following guidelines are established setting forth the minimum penalty that shall be imposed. The District expressly reserves the right to impose a penalty it deems appropriate for each individual situation and case. In addition, the policies and provisions of the Ashtabula Area City Schools Student/Parent

Handbook shall apply in addition to code penalties. A participant suspended or expelled from school shall be banned from participation in co- curricular activities during that period of time. However, if the suspension is a shorter period of time than the co-curricular code dictates, the code penalty shall prevail. ***A student must be academically eligible to participate before he/she may start serving a code violation.***

Penalties for Violation of Athletic Code of Conduct

First Offense

Suspension from participation in **25% of contests** scheduled.

- A. If a student is in violation of rule number 2, the student will be dismissed from the team(s) for one full year from the date of infraction. The student must complete a professional drug assessment at his/her expense from a district approved agency. Written documentation from the assessing agency/individual must be received by the school upon the student's return or further suspension will be assigned (for failure to comply with the code of conduct) until the terms of the assessment are met. Both the student and the parent/guardian must agree to fulfill all of the conditions stipulated in the assessment.
- B. If a student is in violation of rules number 3 or 5 listed above, prior to any future participation, the student must complete a professional behavioral or substance abuse assessment at his/her expense from a district approved agency. If the assessment cannot be completed during the time of the suspension the assessment appointment must be made, and its cost assumed, by a parent/guardian during suspension. Written documentation from the assessing agency/individual must be received by the school upon the student's return or further suspension will be assigned (for failure to comply with the code of conduct) until the terms of the assessment are met. Both the student and the parent/guardian must agree to fulfill all of the conditions stipulated in the assessment. Failure to fulfill all of the conditions of the assessment within the specified time frame may result in removal for the remainder of the activity.

Second Offense

Suspension from participation in **50% of contests** scheduled.

- A. If a student is in violation of rule number 2 the student may be subject to forfeit the remaining eligibility to participate in all Lakeside Athletics for the rest of the student's school career.

- B. If a student is in violation of rules number 3 and 5 listed prior to any future participation, the student must complete a professional behavioral or substance abuse assessment at his/her expense from a district approved agency. If the assessment cannot be completed during the time of the suspension the assessment appointment must be made, and its cost assumed, by a parent/guardian during suspension. Written documentation from the assessing agency/individual must be received by the school upon the student's return or further suspension will be assigned (for failure to comply with the code of conduct) until the terms of the assessment are met. Both the student and the parent/guardian must agree to fulfill all of the conditions stipulated in the assessment. Failure to fulfill **all** of the conditions of the assessment within the specified time frame may result in removal for the remainder of the activity.

Third Offense

Suspension from participation for **up to All Athletic Activities for one (1) calendar year.**

If a student is in violation of rules number 3 or 5 listed above, prior to any future participation, the student must complete a professional behavioral or substance abuse assessment at his/her expense from a district approved agency. If the assessment cannot be completed during the time of the suspension the assessment appointment must be made, and its cost assumed, by a parent/guardian during suspension. Written documentation from the assessing agency/individual must be received by the school upon the student's return or further suspension will be assigned (for failure to comply with the code of conduct) until the terms of the assessment are met. Both the student and the parent/guardian must agree to fulfill all of the conditions stipulated in the assessment. Failure to fulfill **all** of the conditions of the assessment within the specified time frame may result in removal for the remainder of the activity.

Subsequent Offenses

Fourth and subsequent offenses will result in denial of athletic participation for the duration of the student's school career, effective with the date of the offense or the date of awareness of the offense by school officials.

OTHER RELEVANT REGULATIONS/CONSEQUENCES FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Special Awards Restriction

Students who violate the Athletic Code of Conduct shall be ineligible for any special awards during the season of participation or any season in which the suspension is served. Consequently, any student found in violation must forfeit the right to any

position of leadership and/or any special end of season award. This shall include, but is not limited to: MVP, MIP, captain, all conference, etc. Any student who quits or is removed from the team will be ineligible for any postseason awards.

Hosting A Party

Any person who has a gathering at their home/property where any substance prohibited by the Code is being used will be given a penalty at the next highest level above the level they would normally be suspended. Example: If a student hosts a party and it is their first violation, since the party was at their home/property they would be given a violation as their second offense.

Severity Clause

Any student who sells, transfers and/or distributes alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, and/or unlawfully possesses or uses a weapon will receive at least a one year suspension from participation in co-curricular activities.

Suspended Students

1. Penalties will carry over into a second sport season or co-curricular activity if the suspension is not completed in the original season or from one school year to the next.
2. A student with suspension penalties must begin and end their respective season in order for the suspension to be completed.

In-School Assignment

Students in Athletic activities who are sent to In-School Assignment may forfeit his/her opportunity to perform, or compete in the next scheduled contest after which the administration becomes aware of the office referral. The Lakeside administration reserves the right to make decisions as needed to address specific issues that arise.

Suspension Calculations

For Athletic activities, the length of the disciplinary period shall be determined from the mathematical equivalent of one-fourth ($1/4$) or one-half ($1/2$) of the number of scheduled contests rounded to the nearest whole number. The ending date of the disciplinary period shall be the conclusion of the prescribed number of contests and/or period of time as determined above. If the suspension is not completed when a season ends, the remainder of the suspension will be served during the next season in which the student participates.

Penalties Are Cumulative

Penalties will be cumulative over a student's school career (7th-12th). A student may, however, be returned to a first violation status upon being free of all penalties for a period of two years. A student must have a clean record for two consecutive years before another violation is considered their first violation. For example, a student violating the code for the first time at the start of his/her freshman year would start with a clean slate at the start of his/her junior year, provided he/she has no further violations prior to his/her junior year.

Process for Determining Violation of Rules

1. Any complaint/referral concerning a violation shall be communicated to the Building Principal, Athletic Director or their designee.
2. If during the course of an investigation the school administration is made aware of additional students who may have been involved in a violation, the school administrators will take appropriate action as deemed necessary.
3. The Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, Principal or Advisor, shall investigate the referral and give the student involved an opportunity to present a response.
4. Where after an investigation by the appropriate administrator and/or advisor it is determined that a student in question did commit a violation, the student will be orally notified of the determination and penalty.
5. An attempt will be made by school administration to inform the parents after a decision has been made and the student has been informed of a code violation.
6. Violations of the co-curricular code that are brought to the attention of the school administration after 45 days may be acted upon at the discretion of the school administration.

Additional Penalty Information

The penalties listed are the minimum penalties that will be enforced. The District expressly reserves the right to impose a penalty it deems appropriate for each individual situation and case. Additionally, during a period of suspension, the student may be required to attend all practices and team functions to maintain his/her status as a team member, as determined by the Code of Conduct. A violation for activities with a limited schedule of events could result in exclusion from that activity.

INELIGIBLE STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student who is declared academically ineligible may participate in in-season practices, off-season conditioning, and preseason conditioning.

SELECTING THE TEAM

While our ultimate goal is to promote the greatest athletic participation possible at all levels of Ashtabula Area City Schools' athletics, it may be necessary in some sports to "cut" a participant from a squad. This may occur due to any number of reasons, but

usually the nature and limitations specific to some sports. Every coach has the ultimate responsibility and authority for selecting his/her team. The criteria for selecting the team are developed by the coach. A copy of the written criteria will be distributed to our athletes prior to the tryouts and to our parents at the pre-season meeting.

EXPRESSING PARENTAL CONCERNS

1. When expressing a concern to a coach, parents are asked to refer to and use the following guidelines:
2. Always follow the proper athletic chain of command.
3. Never approach a coach at practice nor before or immediately after a contest. Neither is the proper time nor place for a discussion concerning your child or the team.
4. Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches include the treatment of your child mentally and physically, ways to help your child improve, and concerns about your child's behavior.
5. Inappropriate concerns to discuss with coaches include playing time, team strategy, play calling, and other student-athletes.
6. Call the school the following day and make an appointment which is convenient for both you and the coach to meet.
7. Raise your concerns in a calm and civil manner. Yelling, being rude or using foul language is totally unacceptable and will bring an immediate end to the meeting.
8. Once you have stated your question or concern, listen to the explanation. Often a parent may be blinded by emotion and this overrides logic and reason. Listening receptively may really help you to understand any explanation which is given.

ATHLETES INVOLVED IN UNSPORTING BEHAVIOR WITH FANS

Given the recent incidents of irresponsible fan and player behavior in professional, collegiate and high school contests that have drawn national headlines, the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Control adopted the following policies:

No member of any school-sponsored interscholastic athletics squad shall leave the playing area in which a contest is being conducted and enter the spectator area of the facility to engage in any type of conflict – verbal or physical. If a student-athlete leaves the playing area and enters the spectator area of a facility to so engage a person, the minimum penalties shall be:

1. The student-athlete's privileges to participate in interscholastic athletics shall be revoked and the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the remainder of the school year.
2. The school shall be immediately placed on probation pending an investigation (and report) into what happened, what caused it to happen, what was done by the school to diffuse what happened and what "safeguards" have been implemented by the school to prevent future happenings.

ASHTABULA AREA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The Board of Education welcomes the attendance of members of the community at athletic and other public events held by the schools in the District, but the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve the facilities of the District during the conduct of such events.

The Board holds the legal authority to bar the attendance of or remove any person whose conduct may constitute a disruption at a school event. School administrators have the authority to call law enforcement officials if a person violates posted regulations or does not leave school property when requested. They are also authorized to use security devices to better ensure the safety and well-being of participants and visitors.

OFF / PRE SEASON PROGRAMS (open gym, strength and conditioning)

1. Participants must have a physical on file as well as a completed Student Athletic Handbook Sign-off Form, Waiver Form / Insurance, HIPPA Form, and two Emergency Medical Authorization Forms also on file.
2. Student-athletes who wish to participate in a pre-season activity of an upcoming sport (open gym, strength and conditioning) while currently a participant of an in-season sport, should communicate with his/her in-season coach to establish guidelines for that participation.
3. Participants must adhere to all established OHSAA policies.
4. Participants must adhere to all guidelines established by sponsoring coach(es) with regards to behavior, dress, care of facilities, and equipment.
5. Participants must adhere to adopted school policies with regards to school attendance and eligibility.
6. While quitting is an unacceptable habit, it is a common occurrence. Those student athletes who quit an in-season sport and wish to participate in a pre-season activity of an upcoming sport, must adhere to the following procedures:
 - a. In-season head coach will report to the Director of Athletics who will set up a meeting between the student-athlete and the coaches involved.
 - b. Return all equipment to the in-season coach.
 - c. Complete all necessary paperwork regarding pre-season activity.

PRACTICE SESSIONS

Practice sessions are normally closed to spectators and there is a very sound reason for this. These sessions are the equivalent of a teacher's classroom and there is real, quality instruction taking place. Interruptions and interference to a disruption would be tolerated in an academic setting. Education in any setting cannot be compromised.

It is the coach and Athletic Director/Facility Manager who are responsible for scheduling practice time. Between the two, every effort will be made to ensure that student athletes

are provided ample opportunities to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful within the framework of common sense.

Inclement Weather Procedures for Athletics

The following procedures will be implemented when Ashtabula Area City Schools are closed for inclement weather during the winter athletic season.

All communications will be directed by the lakesidedragons.org website by noon.

Lakeside Junior High School

All events and practices will be canceled regardless of why buildings are closed due to inclement weather.

Lakeside High School

Closed for Cold Temperatures

- All home athletic contests will be cancelled.
- Away contests will be determined by the host school. Information regarding athletic contests from host school will be posted by noon.
- Practices may be held between the hours of 12:00-5:00 pm in district buildings.

School Closed for Snow/Ice Accumulation (Morning)

- All home athletic contests will be cancelled.
- Away contests will be determined by the host school. Information regarding athletic contests from host school will be posted by noon.
- Decisions for practice will be determined by noon. Practices will be allowed between the hours of 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. in district buildings provided snow/ice removal efforts have been successful.

School Closed for Snow/Ice Accumulation (Afternoon/Evening)

In the event that school is dismissed early due to the threat of winter storm snow/ice accumulation, all practices and athletic contests will be canceled.

EXHIBIT A



CONCUSSION INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

OHSAA CONCUSSION RESOURCES

Home | Sports Medicine | Sports Safety and Concussion Resources | Concussion Resources

Concussion Resources

Featured Articles

- Questions Vital to Diagnosing Concussions (ESPN E:60 Feature)
- Video: Athletic Trainers and Concussions
- Return to Learn - A Concussion Team Model (via Ohio Department of Health)
- Proper Supervision of Neuropsychological Tests in Sports Concussion (via Sports Neuropsychology Society-2019)

NFHS & OHSAA Concussions Resources

- OHSAA Concussion Regulations
- NFHS Revised Courses, Including "Concussion in Sports"
- Soft Headgear in Non-Helmeted Sports Position Statement
- NFHS Learning Center Introduces "Offloading Wrestling" and Spanish Translation of "Concussion in Sports" Courses
- Suggested Guidelines for Concussion Management in Sports
- Risk Minimization Rules
- Parent's Guide to Concussions
- NFHS Education Program: Concussions in Sport [Press Release]
- NFHS Offers Free Course to Recognize Concussions
- Concussion Regulation Memo to Schools, Feb. 2013
- Concussion Report Form
- Authorization To Re-enter Form

<https://www.ohsaa.org/concussionresources>

<https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/>

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports-Medicine/ParentsFactsheet.pdf>

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports-Medicine/CDCCConcussionSheet.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/Features/Concussion/>

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports-Medicine/CoachGuideConcussion.pdf>

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESOURCES

Ohio Department of Health

Youth Concussions

Reporting a Youth Concussion

Reporting a Youth Concussion

Reporting a Youth Concussion

Reporting a Youth Concussion

Reporting a Youth Concussion

<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/child-injury-Prevention/youthconcussions>

APPENDIX A



STUDENT ATHLETE LOG SHEET



STUDENT-ATHLETE NAME SPORT

COACH GRADE

Teachers: Please indicate if the student is passing or failing in your class. Put a letter grade the student is receiving in your course if possible. Please comment on any aspect of the student's behavior and progress in your course that you feel the coach should be made aware of, ie., tardiness, absences, disruptions, failure to do work, or positive comments when you feel it is applicable. We want the athletes that represent our school to achieve our school goal of a 3.0 GPA although eligibility is set at a 1.5 GPA. This form is our best tool to make sure that all athletes are achieving academically.

Class	Grade	Comments	Signature
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

APPENDIX B



2025-2026

Lakeside High School Academic Intervention Plan

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____ ,

Your child has been placed on an Academic Intervention Plan until (date). Our school's mission is to ensure success for all students. The goal of the contract is to bring the parents, students, and teachers together. It requires the student and parent to utilize our tutorial services, Progressbook (on-line grade book), and any resources provided by the teacher. During the time period a student is placed on an Academic Intervention Plan, they will be required to give up several school privileges:

- Exclusion from Participation in ANY contests (You MAY sit on bench)
- Exclusion from participation in ANY activities that promote the sport (pep assemblies, rallies, awards, etc.)

Criteria for exclusion:

Student is below a 1.5 and failing 1 or more core academic courses

Student Responsibilities:

- I will attend school each day (as defined by the Code of Student Conduct).
- I will bring all necessary materials to class each day.
- I will strive to do my best in every class, not just the ones I like.
- I will participate in classroom activities by asking questions and seeking additional instruction if needed.
- I will complete all assignments on time.
- I will show respect for administration, teachers, and peers.

Parent Responsibilities:

1. Parents have the responsibility to maintain open lines of communication with their children, teachers, and the educational support staff and to be available to assist as needed.
2. Parents have the responsibility to support the efforts of classroom teachers and the educational support staff in maintaining appropriate student behavior.
3. Parents have the responsibility to monitor and promote the academic progress of their children.

By signing this document, we agree to comply with and fulfill the above-mentioned responsibilities.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____