

Vallivue School District 139

It is the desire of the Board of Trustees that all extra-curricular activities and sports provide the optimum quality for all participants; therefore, this policy has been developed. The Vallivue School District, Vallivue High School, and Vallivue Middle School, as members of the Southern Idaho Conference and Inter-Valley League, will follow all conference conditions contained in the Southern Idaho Conference constitution and bylaws, league bylaws, or IHSAA rules and regulations.

Purpose Statement

Vallivue School District believes that extra-curricular activities are a significant benefit to all students. Therefore, Vallivue School District will endeavor to offer as many extra-curricular activities as is reasonable and possible, and will encourage all students of the district to participate in one or more extra-curricular activities. Consistent with the mission of Vallivue School District, equal extra-curricular activity opportunities will be provided to all students.

Extra-curricular activities will provide quality experiences that will enhance the concepts of fair play, individual and group excellence in performance, and respect for fellow participants and/or opponents. These extra-curricular activities will assist participants in developing self-esteem and self-acceptance, and build positive attitudes toward individual and team goal achievements.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, extra-curricular activities includes athletics, official clubs and/or organizations, and those activities that are connected or related to a classroom curriculum, such as but not limited to the following: FFA, marching band, FHA, BPA, drama, debate, etc.

Participation Guidelines

The Vallivue School District believes that activities and athletics provide quality opportunities for students. Therefore:

- (1) The emphasis at the middle school (grades 6-8) is to encourage maximum participation. All students will be allowed to participate in any programs offered unless there are extenuating medical conditions or they fail to meet academic requirements. In order for students to gain from that participation, all participants will be expected to be included in actual contests as well as practice sessions.
- (2) At the high school level (grades 9-12), maximum participation will be encouraged whenever possible in all activities. In those activities where participation is limited by numbers (such as basketball), the head coach will prepare a participation policy that identifies specific skill mastery to be used in making that determination. The head coach will also define an acceptable procedure for notifying participants and parents/guardians of final decisions.

Relationship Among Participants, Parents/Guardians and Coaches/Advisors**A. General Guidelines**

1. In any successful program, it is essential that coaches/advisors, parents/guardians and participants understand each other=s goals and expectations.

2. For this reason, coaches/advisors will meet with participants and parents/guardians to present and discuss their philosophies, goals, expectations and contest rules.
 3. At this meeting, schedules of games and practices will be provided to all participants along with a written contract listing expectations and training/practice rules for the participants.
 4. At this time, coaches/advisors will inform parents guardians and students of any special equipment or requirements for the activity as well as discuss costs that may be incurred by the participants.
- B. Expectations for participants
1. Participants will observe training/practice rules as stated in the written contract.
 2. Participants will give their best efforts at all times -- both in practice and in contests.
 3. Participants will represent the district in a positive manner and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
 4. Unless excused by the coach/advisor, participants are expected to be present for and participate fully in all practices.
 5. Participants who know in advance that they will be absent from practice or an event for appointments or other good reasons should discuss their absence with the coach/advisor in advance.
 6. Participants who have conflicts because of work, family responsibilities or other activities are expected to discuss those conflicts (in advance when possible) with the coach/advisor to determine whether they can give sufficient time and energy to each activity or responsibility. Coaches/advisors are aware of these conflicts and will attempt to resolve them on an individual basis.
 7. Participants are to comply fully with school district and IHSAA policies and league regulations for participation in extra-curricular activities.
- C. Expectations for parents/guardians
1. Parents/guardians will attend pre-season meetings and support participants by attending events when possible.
 2. Parents/guardians will maintain realistic expectations for their children no matter what their natural or developed ability level may be.
 3. Parents/guardians should attempt to have realistic expectations and be supportive of their child=s participation as well as refrain from challenging or second-guessing the style, decisions or philosophy of the coach/advisor.
 4. In cases where there is a conflict or misunderstanding, parents/guardians will attempt to resolve problems through channels as outlined in this policy.

5. Parents/guardians will exhibit good sportsmanship, both at events and in discussions with others.
 6. Parents will be expected to arrange for their student=s transportation to and from activities in a timely manner.
- D. Expectations for coaches/advisors
1. Coaches/advisors are responsible for rules and regulations for the conduct of their activities.
 2. Coaches/advisors will have all major rules as well as practice and game schedules approved in advance by the athletic director and/or the school principal. After approval, these rules and schedules will be supplied in writing to the participants and their parents/guardians.
 3. Significant changes in rules or practice times will be approved in advance by the athletic director and/or principal and communicated clearly to participants and parents/guardians.
 4. Coaches/advisors will be present and supervise participants at all times when participants are practicing or competing under the auspices of the school. Unsupervised practices are not permitted on school premises or under the auspices of the school.
 5. A coach/advisor or other designated responsible adult must be present after practices and contests until all participants have been safely picked up or left the premises.
 6. Coaches/advisors will not impose severe disciplinary measures or remove a participant permanently from participation until the matter has been discussed fully with the administration. This does not preclude the temporary suspension of a participant pending administrative review.
 7. Coaches/advisors must ensure safe procedures and safe conditions at every contest and every practice.
 8. Coaches/advisors are expected to be aware of and able to use basic first aid procedures, as well as know what to do in case of serious accident, injury or emergency.
 9. Coaches/advisors are expected to frequently monitor academic progress, including attitude and effort.
 10. Coaches/advisors will exhibit good sportsmanship and exemplary behavior, both at events and in discussions with others.
 11. Coaches/advisors will work cooperatively to support and accommodate multi-sport/activity participants.

Chain of Command/Chain of Communication

A. Whenever a problem or a grievance develops in an extra-curricular activity or sport, the following chain of command is to be followed by the person who has a problem or grievance.

Level I: As soon as practical, the parent/guardian or participant who has a problem or grievance will first attempt to solve the problem with the coach/advisor involved. These communications are to be held at an appropriate time and in an appropriate location. During or after practice or immediately after a contest is not an appropriate time for such communications. Coaches/advisors have other responsibilities at such times and there is not an opportunity for private and open communication. This Level I process shall be completed in a prompt and timely manner.

Level II: If the situation is not resolved at Level I, the grievant may appeal to the athletic director and/or principal as appropriate. The grievant will be expected to request a meeting in advance to review the issue(s).

Level III: Superintendent (or designee)

Level IV: Board of Trustees

B. If a problem or grievance cannot be resolved at lower levels of the chain of command/communication, the final decision regarding any part of this policy shall be with the Board of Trustees. It is the responsibility of the party in grievance (student, parents/guardians or other person) to contact or confront the coach/advisor first and then to follow the chain of command/communication if the problem remains.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Section 33-512(12); SIC Athletic Policy Guidelines

ADOPTED: 5/11/99

AMENDED: 2/12/02, 1/11/05, 8/14/07 (replaces policy 505.1 – contents unchanged)