

REEDS SPRING HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

The purpose of this guide is to provide a statement of philosophy of interscholastic athletics for the Reeds Spring Public School System.

It is the philosophy of the Reeds Spring Public School System that a quality program of interscholastic athletics shall be conducted as an integral part of the learning program in the district. As many activities as possible will be offered at as many skill levels as personnel (both adult and student) and facilities will permit.

Objectives of the athletic program at Reeds Spring High School include the opportunity for students to:

1. develop the ability to think both as individuals and as members of a group
2. develop self-discipline and emotional maturity
3. develop social competence
4. learn the value of conforming to rules
5. learn respect for the rights of others and for authority
6. gain recognition and prestige

EQUIPMENT

Students are responsible for the equipment issued to them. They will pay for the abuse and destruction of any school equipment. They are financially responsible for all equipment or gear issued by the school that is not properly returned. Payment or return of gear must be made before a student progresses from that sport or activity to the next sport or activity season. Uniforms and practice gear are expected to be worn only for the purposes for which they have been issued.

SUPERVISION

No school activity practice or game performance shall be held without a sponsor or coach. No student should attempt to practice or play unless the coach or sponsor is there to supervise. Students are not to begin warm-ups or workouts before the coach or sponsor arrives. For safety reasons, students are not to use school equipment without proper supervision. (Violators are subject to removal from the activity.)

INSURANCE

The School District of Reeds Spring makes available insurance coverage for all athletics. It is the type of coverage that takes over *after* the family insurance. Insurance forms are available in the office.

PHYSICAL EXAM

All students who participate in the interscholastic program at RSHS must have a physical examination given by a physician. The results of this examination must be recorded on a form provided by the school district. Only examinations dated after June 1 of the coming school year are valid.

In addition to the information outlined, the physician, the parent or guardian, and the athlete must sign the form in the appropriate spaces. All student athletes will bring the completed form to the athletic office. Student athletes may not receive equipment, practice, or play until the completed form is on file in the athletic director's office.

Normally only one physical examination is required per year, but the school district may require others at its discretion.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation for interscholastic activities is to be arranged through Wayne Haynes, Activities Director

Team members travel as a unit on school district vehicles. The principal and coach must approve *in writing* any exception to the rule.

DEFINITION OF ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility to participate in activity contests between schools is a privilege that is attained by meeting the standards cooperatively set for this purpose by member schools of the Missouri State High School Activities Association.

ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

1. Students must be creditable high school citizens.
2. Students must be enrolled in courses that offer 3 units of credit and must have earned 3 units of credit the previous semester.
3. Students cannot compete in any sport for more than four seasons or in any but the first eight semesters in which they are enrolled in high school, including special education.
4. Students must enter school within the first 11 days of the semester to be eligible to play that semester.
5. Students must not accept an award for competing in any high school sport except the award given by their school.
6. High school students who reach their nineteenth birthday before to July 1, you will be ineligible for competition during the next school year.
7. During the activity season, a student represents his or her school by competing in an interscholastic activity contest. He or she cannot compete as a member of a non-school competition in that event.

8. Students may not practice or compete in a non-school competition on the same day that he/she practices or competes for the school.
9. If a student transfers schools, he/she is ineligible for 365 days from the date of transfer, unless there is a corresponding change of residence of the parents or unless he/she meets other exceptions to this rule.
10. A student who transfers schools under conditions that do not meet the terms of the transfer standards may be eligible to participate on a lower level of competition.
11. A student will remain eligible so long as he/she does not commit an act that might be interpreted as unsportsmanlike conduct while playing or attending a high school activity.
12. A student must maintain a 1.666 GPA each Grading Period to be eligible to participate in a school sponsored competitive activity. Students who fall below the 1.666 GPA at the end of the Grading Period will be on probation until the next Grading Period. During the probationary period, the student will be allowed to practice and compete in school sponsored events.

At the conclusion of the probationary period, if the student has not achieved at 1.666 GPA the student will be allowed to practice but will be ineligible to participate in school sponsored competitive activities until the next Grading Period at which time they must have achieved a 1.666 GPA to be considered eligible.

13. Transferring from one school to another solely because of athletics or activities will make the student ineligible for one full year.
14. Students shall not attend a specialized athletic camp for more than two calendar weeks with instruction by the school's coaches. However, the student may attend camps in any sport during the summer.

This is only a partial list of standards, but these are the rules that generate the most questions. All standards of eligibility are listed in the MSHSAA Handbook. The principal and the activity director in conjunction with the Missouri State High School Activities Association will interpret any special cases that develop.

REQUIREMENTS FOR LETTERING

As each teacher in the high school has his or her own personal expectations of students in the grading process, so do coaches in the field of athletics. It is expected that all coaches review what their requirements are for achieving a letter in a sport. All coaches will expect students to be a good citizen both in and out of school, be a viable contributor to the team on the level that the student desires to letter, and in regular attendance at both practices and competitions. Exceptions to the individual coach's requirements may involve the activities director and/or principal.

REEDS SPRING HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CITIZENSHIP CODE

Interscholastic activities are a definite part of the overall school program. Students who choose to try out and are selected to represent the school assume an obligation not only for themselves, but also for those they represent.

Participation in school activities is a privilege, granted you meet the MSHSAA eligibility standards. According to MSHSAA eligibility standards, participants must be good citizens in their school and community. More specifically, any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic activities must be a creditable citizen and be judged so by the proper school authority certifying the list of students for competition.

It is understood that citizenship eligibility cases are handled on an individual basis at the school level by the coach/director, athletic administrator, principal, parents and player. However, it is also felt that system-wide guidelines will assist in the uniform handling of such cases.

Any incidents which occur that are not covered by these guidelines, will be reviewed on an individual basis and decisions related to penalties will be made by the administration and head coach/director.

It is the philosophy of the Reeds Spring School District that a quality program of interscholastic activities shall be conducted as an integral part of the learning program. Students should receive training in sportsmanship, motivation, self-discipline, loyalty, leadership and a winning attitude.

Generally, in our school system, activities participants have conducted themselves in a manner in which both the school and community can be proud. By establishing the following guidelines, it is felt that all involved will know what is expected of them and "striving for excellence" will be the final result.

Making the Grade:

MSHSAA Eligibility

Grades 9-12: Students must be enrolled in and attending courses that offer a minimum of 3 units of credit. Students must have earned 3 units the preceding semester.

Grades 7-12: Students must be enrolled in a normal course load for your school. You also must have been promoted to a higher grade level at the end of the previous year, not having failed more than two courses the previous semester.

Reeds Spring R-IV Academic Eligibility

Grades 9-12: A student must maintain a 1.666 grade point average each Grading Period to be eligible to participate in a school sponsored activity. Students who fall below the 1,666 GPA at the end of a Grading Period will be on probation until the next Grading Period. During this probationary period, the student will be allowed to practice and compete in school sponsored events. At the conclusion of the probationary period, if the student has not achieved a 1.666 GPA the student will be allowed to practice but will be ineligible to participate in school sponsored competitive activities until the next Grading Period at which time they must have achieved a 1.666 GPA to be considered eligible. If a student misses class (es) without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes (or has an excused absence (s) from class) without an unexcused absence.

Grades 7-8: Students in grades 7th and 8th who participate in any interscholastic activity must maintain a grade point average of 4.0 (C-) based on an 11 point grading scale. Interscholastic activities are defined as any extracurricular activity with another school. First quarter eligibility for 8th grade students will be based on the previous year's 4th quarter grades. (This initial requirement, based on the previous year's 4th quarter grades, will be waived for 7th grade students.)

Students who fall below the 4.0 GPA at the end of a quarter and wish to participate in school-sponsored activities will be required to attend a special study hall three mornings per week to receive assistance and special help to improve his/her grades. Such students will be able to participate in activities during this time. If a student is absent twice from these mandatory study hall sessions, he/she will forfeit activity participation eligibility immediately for the rest of the quarter. If the student has not achieved a 4.0 GPA by mid-term of the following quarter, the student will then be ineligible to participate in school-sponsored activities until the end of that quarter. Students, who have met the 4.0 GPA requirements at this point, remain eligible for the remainder of the quarter.

Tobacco Products:

Any student using tobacco products will be denied the privilege of participation in all extra-curricular competition for a minimum of one week.
Second offense: restriction from participation for 90 days
Third offense: restriction from participation for 365 days

Alcoholic Beverages:

Any student using or in possession of an alcoholic beverage will be denied the privilege of participation in all extra-curricular competition for a period of two weeks.
Second offense: restriction from participation for 90 days
Third offense: restriction from participation for 365 days

Controlled Substance and Narcotics:

Any student using or in possession of a controlled substance and/or narcotics will be denied the privilege of participation in all extra-curricular activities for one calendar year. A student has the right to appeal for full eligibility after a six-month suspension.

School Law Enforcement Referral:

Any student referred to school officials for school rule violations will be denied the privilege of participation in all extra-curricular activities for a period determined by the principal.

Arrest:

Any student who is arrested for a felony or gross misdemeanor may be denied the privilege of participation in all extra-curricular activities for a period determined by the principal.

ISD/OSS:

Students who receive In-School/Out of School Suspension will be suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities during the required ISD/OSS days. Students who receive ISD will be allowed to practice but not participate during this time, however those receiving OSS will not be allowed to practice, or participate.

Summer Infraction:

Students breaking the smoking or alcohol rule during the summer will receive a first offense punishment. Because no sports may be in season during the summer, the first offense punishment for ten (10) days may not affect the student. However, the student will receive a second offense punishment if he/she breaks the smoking or alcohol rules during the regular school year.

Note: Rule violations are calculated on one-year intervals and are not based upon an accumulated four-year cycle.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Coach Signature