



RACINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RACINE, WISCONSIN

Middle School Athletic Handbook & Code of Conduct

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Middle School Athletic Handbook & Code of Conduct

Coordinators, coaches, parents, and student-athletes are responsible for reviewing this policy and the policies as stated within.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Racine Unified School District that athletics are an educational tool that encourages all student-athletes to make positive decisions and be engaged in school.

RUSD Athletics – Mission Statement

The athletics programs of Racine Unified School District are an integral part of the district's goals. It is a privilege for student athletes to participate in these programs, which are intended to enrich learning and improve/increase engagement in their school, community, and fellow athletes. Athletics assist in the physical, social, and emotional development on student athletes. Additionally, athletics provide opportunities for student-athletes to become their own advocates and work with coaches to set goals, overcome adversity, and work cooperatively to make experiences rewarding.

I. Requirements to Participate

As a student-athlete, you are not eligible to participate until the following items have been completed:

- Physical card turned into school coordinator or coach
- RUSD user fee paid
- All outstanding athletic equipment has been returned/paid for

II. Student-Athlete Responsibilities

- Comply with the handbook and code of conduct
- Meet academic standards of eligibility
- Follow guidelines established by school and coach/advisor
- Meet expectations of all classes
- Comply with RUSD rules of eligibility
- Abstain from using any illegal substances; including but not limited to drugs and alcohol

III. Sportsmanship

Student-athletes, coaches, and spectators must conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the event(s) taking place. All involved in events should recognize and show appreciation of plan and respect others and their safety. If you choose not to use good sportsmanship, you **will** forfeit your right to be in attendance and **will** be asked to leave.

IV. Academic Eligibility

a) Grade Requirements

In order to attain academic eligibility, students must:

- Have zero failing grades
- Complete the requirements prescribed by coach or advisor
- Maintain eligible academic standing throughout season
- Grades will carry over from Spring to Fall seasons for athletes (I.E. Girls' basketball grades will be checked from quarter 4)
- Academic ineligibility will result in 25% season suspension; student athletes can return after suspension if grade requirements are met

b) Attendance

- Student-athletes must be in school at least half of a school day to participate in practice
- Student-athletes must attend school for an entire day in order to participate in competitive events
- All unexcused/truant absences must be checked off by attendance office/administration or it may result in a missed contest

c) Suspensions

Level I

- Any behavior that results in a full day of in-school suspension **during the season** of participation will result in a one contest /game suspension. This penalty must be served on the **NEXT** contest.

Level II

- Minor misconduct/misbehavior or failure to follow school rules that result in a one-day out of school suspension **during the**

season of participation will result in a one contest/game suspension. This penalty must be served on the **NEXT** contest once the student returns from suspension.

Level III

- Any suspension that is more than ONE day will result in a 25% season suspension (I.E. Student-athlete has 8 total contests/games, but because of a level III suspension, they must miss the first 2 contests)

Level IV – Alcohol, tobacco, and drug related violations

- Any alcohol, tobacco, or drug related incidents in or out of school will result in loss of season for any student-athlete

d) Reinstatement

- If a student serves a suspension for level III or IV, they must have approved return to game play by school administration the following season

e) Conduct Unbecoming of an Athlete

- Any conduct or acts which are generally considered to be unbecoming of a participant representing his/her school includes, but is not limited to:
 - Criminal behavior
 - Hazing
 - Bullying
 - Inappropriate use of social media
 - Cyber-bullying
 - Level III/IV suspension

V. Game Participation

- Game Participation – Every eligible player **MUST** participate in an event if in attendance
- Playing time is the responsibility of team coaches/advisors
- Participation levels may vary by contest/sport type

VI. Expectations of School Coordinators and Coaches/Advisors

School Coordinators are responsible for:

- Collecting physical cards and student fees
- Checking grades/attendance of student-athletes
- Ensuring coaches are following rules and expectations

Coaches/Advisors are responsible for:

- Checking grades/attendance of student-athletes
- Mentoring students to succeed in both academics and athletics
- Following rules and expectations prescribed in handbook