

# ATHLETIC POLICIES OF FCJH

## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

In that participants in the Franklin Central Junior High athletic programs are, and should be, representatives of the student body, faculty, coaching staff and administration of said school; and, in that such programs are of a voluntary nature and are not compulsory, the following code of conduct governing participation in such activities or programs shall be in effect. This code shall apply to all interscholastic athletic programs, whether contest or practices and include school spirit programs.

### SCOPE OF PROGRAM:

The following interscholastic athletic programs are currently being offered to students at Franklin Central Junior High:

FALL: \*Boys Tennis, Cheerleading, \*Cross Country, Football, \*Girls Golf, B&G Soccer and Girls Volleyball

WINTER: Boys Basketball, Cheerleading, Girls Basketball Unified Basketball, \*Wrestling and \*Swimming&Diving

SPRING: Baseball, \*Boys Golf, Boys Volleyball, Softball, \*Girls Tennis, Unified Track & Field and \*Track and Field.

NOTE: Managers fall under the same rules as any other athlete or cheerleader. \*denotes 6th grade participation in try-outs.

The athletic program at Franklin Central Junior High has been developed around several guidelines which are not governed but recommended by the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, Marion County Middle School Athletic Director's Assoc., Marion County Principals Assoc., and FCJH Administration.

- To provide extracurricular activities.
- To develop pride and unity within our school and for our school.
- To provide a developmental system for our high school programs.
- To provide an activity in which our community may participate.
- To act as a supplement to, and not a substitute for, the regular academic program.

## PARTICIPATION

Students may participate in any or all of the athletic activities offered by Franklin Central Junior High if eligibility requirements are met and the student has been selected by the coach as a member of the team. No participation is to be stressed in one sport as a prerequisite to participation in another sport. Participation is solely the student's choice. Students may not, however, participate in two sports competing simultaneously (ex. football and cross-country.) A student, once having made the team in a sport may not quit that team in order to participate in another sport offered by the school during the same season. (Ex. A student who made the basketball team cannot quit and then try-out for wrestling or swimming. The student must wait until the basketball season has been completed.) **A half-day of attendance is required for participation or attendance at extracurricular activities (students must be present for a minimum of 3 class periods).** Any student with an excused absence/non-participation day in physical education is not permitted to participate in any active extra-curricular functions such as games, practices and/or competitions. Students who work the polls during elections are considered eligible.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Any student-athlete receiving more than 1 failing grade (F) at the end of any 9-week grading period will be placed on probation\* for the following grading period until midterm grades have been posted.
- Grades will be checked at the 9-week midterm for mid-season eligibility. In the event a student-athlete is earning more than 1 failing grade(F), the student will be placed on probation\* until the end of the 9-week grading period.

PROBATION: When on probation, \*student-athletes are **permitted to practice, but are NOT permitted to compete in interscholastic contests** until probationary status is lifted (based on grades at midterm or end of the 9-week grading period).

- Number of years: As long as a student meets academic, age and physical requirements they can participate at their present grade level.
- New students entering FCJH for the first time are academically eligible to begin the season. Starting with the first grade report (midterm or 9-weeks) an athlete can receive one (F) failing grade and still be eligible. If the New students receive more than one (F) failing grade, then they become ineligible for athletic competition until meeting the one (F) rule on the next grade check.

**AGE** - Exceptions to this rule are by approval of Franklin Central Junior High Athletic Directors and Principal.

7th grade students must be under the age of fourteen as of September.

8th grade students must be under the age of fifteen as of September.

7th grade students may not participate on an 8th grade team except in a case where the Athletic Directors and Principal agree it is in the best interest of the student-athlete.

### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Each year, all participants must have a physical examination and have an **Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSA) physical form completed and on file with the athletic director before they can try-out for any sport/team.**

Coaches are responsible for verification that each participant has a current physical form on file. A current physical is one in which the examination was conducted **on or after April 1 of the previous school year.**

- The student must also have the section of the physical form dealing with insurance completed and signed by the parent/guardian.
- Franklin Central Junior High does not provide athletic insurance policies.
- If a student misses five or more consecutive practices due to illness or injury, a release from the physician must be obtained before that student may resume practice.

### **PLAYING TIME**

Playing time and game strategy is at the sole discretion of the head coach of each interscholastic athletic team. Playing Time is not guaranteed. FCJH Athletic Administration will not talk over playing time and strategy with parents and athletes. FCJH Athletic Administration encourages the student-athlete to discuss any concerns that may arise during a season directly with their respective coach in a respectful and appropriate manner.

### **PARTICIPATION**

- A student-athlete must be in attendance **for a minimum of 3 class periods** to participate/or attend after school athletics.
- Students who work the polls during elections are considered eligible for after school athletic activities.
- If an athlete does not participate in physical education class they cannot participate in athletics that evening.

### **CUTTING**

When it is necessary to cut students from a team, the coach will give fair and equal treatment to all students trying out for the team. Cutting students from a team will take place when it is in the best interest of the team as a whole to limit the number of team members. If an athlete tries out for a sport and is cut from that team, then that athlete has 1 week to go out for another team.

### **LATE ROSTER ADDITIONS**

All new additions to a team roster must be cleared with the Athletic Directors before being allowed to compete.

### **PRACTICE**

Students who have late practice are NOT to remain in the building waiting for practice to begin unless under the direct supervision of a coach.

### **CITIZENSHIP**

As representatives of Franklin Central Junior High, our coaches, athletes, managers and cheerleaders are expected to maintain the highest degree of citizenship in both the school and community. As such, various rules and regulations must be made by the athletic director, coaching staff and/or school administration. Violation of such rules will result in penalties ranging from suspensions for a period of time to outright dismissal from that team or squad. If an athlete is assigned in-school suspension or after-school detention, they cannot participate in after school practices or games. Exception: If an athlete is assigned an after-school detention on a game night and they can make the team report time, designated by the coach, they may participate. Any missed practices or games due to school discipline, is an unexcused absence. If an in-school suspension is assigned for one or three days, the first offense that affects an athlete counts as one unexcused.

### **TRAINING RULES**

Each coach has the responsibility to set: team rules, practice and attendance expectations/requirements, behavioral expectations/requirements, practice schedules, team report times, pick-up and drop-off times, training rules, which affect

performance in his/her sport. Athletes violating such rules are subject to dismissal from the team by the coach.

## **PRACTICES**

Athletes are expected to attend practices regularly and parents are expected to provide transportation home after practice. Athletes should realize that missed practices may cost them the opportunity to participate (see training rules under citizenship). Practices generally are Monday through Friday. Exceptions will occur due to facility availability or school day schedules. Saturday practices are possible and times will be arranged by the individual coach. There will be no Sunday practices, meetings or contests of any kind. In the case of school closing due to bad weather there will be no practice or contest on that day. On vacation days or holidays practice schedules are to be arranged in advance by the individual coaches and practices should be optional to the athletes as excused absences. This does not mean the coach cannot limit playing time at the next contest in favor of the athletes who were at practice. Any time an athlete cannot make a practice he/she must contact the coach personally in advance to work through the conflict. Any athlete who is chronically late arriving or being picked up (3 or more times) will be subject to removal from the team.

## **TEAM TRAVEL**

Franklin Central Junior High athletes are expected to travel both to and return from contests at other schools in transportation provided by the school. Exceptions will be made only under the following conditions:

- Parental requests to transport their son or daughter due to a prior commitment or sudden emergency must be done in advance of the contest in writing. Athletes will be released only to their parents or an adult designated by the parent. The written request is to be given to the head coach of the particular sport involved.
- Emergency medical attention requires transportation to a doctor, hospital, or approved medical facility whereby such transportation shall be by parent, staff member, emergency medical service or a team parent upon approval of the coach and/or athletic director.
- Illness requiring transportation home, such transportation is to be provided by parent or adult designated by the parent to transport the athlete home.

## **AWARDS**

Awards will be distributed to student-athletes at the conclusion of each interscholastic sport season:

**Participation Award** - successfully completing the season and demonstrating a "WeAreFlashes" teamwork approach

**Hardest Worker Award** - this student-athlete demonstrated a dedication to improve his/her craft in their sport while demonstrating leadership, teamwork, and qualities that embody Franklin Central Junior High Athletics

**Mental Attitude Award** - this student-athlete demonstrated a superior mental approach to the sport they participated in. Remaining calm under pressure, demonstrating the utmost sportsmanship regardless of win/loss, and displaying positive traits during competition.

**Most Improved Award** - this student-athlete demonstrated thru practice and contests getting better by being dedicated and focused in his/her sport.

**Most Valuable Player Award** – is the honor bestowed upon the best-performing player on the team.

## **POSTPONEMENTS/CANCELLATIONS**

At times, it is necessary for an athletic event to be postponed or canceled. Postponements/cancellations usually are due to inclement weather, which in one way or another would put the health and safety of our students at risk. Postponements/cancellations are handled by the Athletic Directors of the schools involved in the contest. In the event of a postponement an attempt will be made to reschedule the event at a later date. Postponements/cancellations will try to be made before the end of the school day so athletes can make their adjustments.