

Warren County Middle School Athlete Participation Requirements

Thank you for your interest in participating in athletics at Warren County Middle School. When you choose to participate in athletics, you assume a leadership role as a member of our athletic team. The student body, the community and other communities **judge our school by your conduct and attitude**, both on and off the court. Because of this leadership role, you are expected to be the standard that other students are measured by. This standard includes positive citizenship skills, grades, commitment to the team, and modeling our ROAR behavior expectations at all times.

All students must meet and maintain the following requirements in order to participate in Warren County Middle School sports.

Requirements:

- You must have a current **VHSL Physical** on file prior to tryouts.
- **Academic Expectations:** Students must have passed all classes (and not have been required to attend summer school) from the year prior to try out for a team. You are expected to have maintained a 2.0 GPA from the start of the school year through the end of the season.
Student-Athletes will have weekly grade checks and may not play or practice if they are failing a class. They may return to the team as soon as their grade rises to a passing grade.
- **School Attendance:** You are responsible for maintaining a good attendance record. **Students may not try out for a team if they are considered chronically absent (defined as missing more than 10% of the school year) when tryouts begin.** Student-Athlete attendance will also be checked weekly and students may not play or practice if they become chronically absent during the season. They may return to practice if they are working to improve their attendance. They may return to games as soon as their attendance improves to where they are no longer chronically absent. Students may not attend any game or practice if they do not attend school that day.
- **Behavior Expectations:** You are expected to demonstrate acceptable behavior at Warren County Middle School. Student-athletes whose school behavior may be of concern will be handled on a case-by-case basis and may include removal from the team in consultation with the school administration. Students may not attend any game or practice on days that they are assigned to after-school detention, ISS, or OSS. Student athletes are subject to the Code of Conduct at all games and practices, home and away, and on or off the court/field.
- **Profanity:** Profanity has no place in athletics and will not be tolerated at practices and games, on or off the court/field.
- **Tobacco Products (Vaping), Alcohol Beverages, Drugs and Energy Drinks:** The unlawful purchase, possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances and tobacco, or the misuse of any such substance which would endanger the safety of a student-athlete, will not be permitted. Due to the harmful effects of some energy drinks, student-athletes may not consume energy drinks during the season.
- **Hazing/Bullying:** Any form of hazing/bullying or other rites of initiation or intimidation are strictly forbidden at any time, on or off school property. Any incident will be referred to administration with a minimum athletic suspension of five school days.
- **Social Media:** The use of any electronic media to bully, threaten, harass, sexually harass, or insult other students, team members, coaches, opponents, or officials, or other actions that reflect negatively on the player, program, and/or school, will not be tolerated and may result in an athletic suspension or removal from the team.
- **Locker-room/Transportation:** Athletes are required to maintain appropriate behavior appropriately while in locker rooms and when using WCPS transportation. Failure to comply with locker room and transportation rules will result in disciplinary action up to dismissal from athletic participation and suspension from school.

- **Sportsmanship:** Athletes are expected to be courteous to opponents, coaches and officials; modest in victory and gracious in defeat; and be aware that their actions often affect crowd reactions.
- **Team Responsibility:** When you try out for a team, you are making a commitment to your teammates and coaches. The WCMS team should be your first athletic priority. Missing WCMS team practices and games to participate on travel or recreational teams is not acceptable and may result in developing an attendance plan with your coach or dismissal from the WCMS team. Student-athletes that quit a WCMS team after tryouts, may not participate on another WCPS athletic team for the remainder of that season.

*****Athletes who are in violation of the requirements above are subject to discipline including game suspension and/or team dismissal.***

As a Warren County student-athlete participating voluntarily in interscholastic athletics, I understand that:

1. I will abide by the Warren County Student Code of Conduct, the school's Athletic Requirements, and the coaches' team rules.
2. I will conduct myself in an exemplary social manner at all times.
3. I will be responsible for all athletic equipment issued to me throughout the season, will return such equipment at the conclusion of the season, and will pay the current replacement cost for any of the equipment not accounted for by me at the end of the season.
4. I will not use or be in possession of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. I understand that I will be subject to disciplinary actions if I use or am in possession of these items.
5. I understand that if I have after-school detention, ISS, or OSS infractions, I will not be able to participate in any athletic practice or school event that day and am subject to additional athletic team restrictions based on the principal's discretion.
6. I will not use social media or electronic media to bully, threaten, harass, sexually harass, or insult other students, team members, coaches, opponents, or officials, or post other items which reflect negatively on the sport, program, and/or the school.
7. I will maintain a minimum grade point average of **2.0 for the entire sports season.**
8. I will maintain appropriate attendance by **attending school more than 90% of the school year.**
9. I understand that coaches and teachers will communicate to ensure that I meet these requirements.
10. I, along with my parents, certify that I have read and understand all of Warren County Middle School's athletic policies. In order to be eligible for participation, I understand I must comply with all requirements listed.

Please complete and return to your coach or Mr. Heeter for each sports season.

Print Student Name _____ **Grade Level:** 6 7 8

Student Signature _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature _____ **Date:** _____