Earning a Varsity Letter In Pickleball

Earning a varsity letter at your school is an achievement recognizing your work in a particular club or sport. It also is an indication of your efforts to be academically eligible and to adhere to school policies concerning codes of conduct. Schools themselves decide on which club or sports such an award will go to. There are many lettering policies within a school but generally they require the student to perform at a level of good academic standing, attend practice and participate, and compete or perform in culminating experience.

Inclusion on a Varsity Roster

Letters are awarded to the top performing students who have made athletic varsity competition, performed a production, play, or concert in front of audiences, and may have competed interscholastic ally such as, but not limited to: Chess, Model UN, Student Council, Speech and Debate. Letter recipients must utilize time management skills and complete the entire season.

Performance and/ or Play Time

A common criteria of letter achievement involves a standard preseason goal that is defined by the percentage of playing time, achieving a predetermined number of team or individual points, and or completing a number of performances.

Good Academic Standing

Nearly every school has academic requirements that are the basis of eligibility. It acknowledges that the academic experience of a student's life is the primary purpose of a student's institutional experience. Having an academic requirement provides motivation for the student to organize time, bring attention to their studies, and provides an academic example to other students.

Coach Discretion

Most lettering policies allow the coach to offer consideration in special situations. At times an injury, job responsibilities, illness, family responsibilities, or an unusually high qualified performer limited opportunities to perform or compete. These situations may cause a student to technically not qualify for a letter. The Coach has the authority to consider these events as outside of a student's control and award a letter based on the

effort. Perhaps, the student who didn't meet the technical requirements but provided team leadership or showed a strong work ethic which benefited the team.

Behavior Requirements

Some policies include behavior standards that reflect what is expected of a student representing their institution. Some examples may be on campus referrals, after school detentions which are an indication of habitual discipline problems. Other policies include health concerns over drinking, tobacco and drug use. Still others exclude students involved in criminal activities.

Conclusion

While school awarded varsity letters originally were used strictly for varsity athletic performance, schools have recognized not all letter worthy activities are athletic. A program such as Choir, Band, Student Council, Chess, Model UN, Spanish Club, Pickleball Club and Academic Decathlon are also ways in which a student can achieve school recognition for their invested time, talent, and growth. This investment of time and effort often lead to the student developing a connection to the institution they are attending. Commitment to the school leads to better academic performance and more thoughtful actions to build community within the school.