

ACTIVITIES CODE POLICY	
Date Approved:	Date Revised: 5/18/98, 6/19/00, 11/13/00, 4/18/05, 7/16/06, 5/19/08, 11/2011 (effective January 31, 2112), 7/16/12, 7/22/13, 6/27/16, 7/23/18, 1/28/19, 2/25/19, 6/24/19, 1/25/21, 5/2025

This policy was developed to give students, parents and administration a full understanding of the guidelines for participation in athletic and co-curricular activities in the Birchwood School District. No person may be denied the benefits of or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. This does not, however, prohibit the district from placing a student in a program or activity based on objective standards of performance, from providing separate programs in interscholastic athletics for males and females if such programs are comparable in type, scope, and support from the district, or from providing separate toilet, locker, and shower facilities.

It is a well documented fact that students who participate in co/extra-curricular activities do better in the classroom. In addition, these activities teach commitment, teamwork, cooperation and a work ethic that is valuable throughout life's endeavors. The Birchwood School District is committed to offering a wide variety of athletic and co-curricular activities with a desire that all students will choose to participate in one or more of these activities.

It is the philosophy of this school that: "It is a privilege to be able to participate in co/extra-curricular activities." By definition, a privilege is a "special right" and therefore, since it is special, it follows that special responsibilities are then placed upon those who wish to accept this privilege.

If a student is serious about accepting the privilege of participating in co/extra-curricular activities, he or she must be willing to accept the following policies and obligations. On an annual basis students and a parent/guardian must attend an informational meeting designed to review and distribute the Birchwood School District Activities Code. An abbreviated, user-friendlier version of this policy will be made available at the informational meeting.

Definition

The co-curricular activities are grouped into two (2) categories and are governed by codes as described below. Students who are members of both groups will serve suspensions in both groups.

Group A

Basketball
Baseball
Football
Golf
Cross Country
Softball
Volleyball
Cheer/Dance

Group B: Group B is defined as a group that goes to outside competitions/events:

FBLA

Forensics (February 1 - April 17)

Science Olympiad

Solo and Ensemble

HOSA-Future Health Professionals

Group C: Will have activity specific contracts for students participating and do not fall within the Activities Code Policy.

Student Council

Class Officers

NCHS

Community Theatre

Academic ineligibility status means that a student will be allowed to practice with the team or activity; however, they will not be allowed to compete in any contest.

Students that have not satisfied code violations will not be considered for court participation or Educational Foundation of Birchwood Representative.

Students who have received code violations will not be eligible for all conference recognition.

I. ATHLETICS: GROUP A

Minor violations will be investigated and consequences determined by the Principal and Athletic Director.

Major Violations which consist of actions such as:

- Repeated minor violations (2 or more) at the discretion of the Principal and Athletic Director.
- Use, possession, buying or selling of drugs, vapes, alcohol, tobacco products, E-Cigarettes, inhalants, other illicit substances, or their look alikes.
- Willful representation of the use, possession, buying or selling of the above mentioned substances.
- Displaying poor sportsmanship while at a practice or activity event.
- Violation of Wisconsin Criminal Statutes.

Disciplinary action for Major Violations will be as follows:

Offense 1: The athlete must continue to practice and travel with the team, but may not participate in the number of games determined on the chart below.

Any student showing honesty about participating in these activities may have their suspension cut in half.

Offense 2: The athlete must continue to practice and travel with the team, but may not participate in the number of games determined on the chart below.

The student can get a reduction to 25% if the student completes an SSS plan. The SSS plan must be completed prior to returning to competition.

Offense 3: The student is prohibited from participating activities in any way for the equivalent of

one calendar year.

Students under a one year suspension may get a reduction to 50% of the calendar year, if completing an SSS plan. The SSS plan needs to be completed prior to returning to practice or events.

Offense 4: Suspension from all extracurricular activities for the rest of the student's high school career.

*All suspensions carry over into the athlete's next season if necessary (equivalent to the number of events remaining in the season when the infraction occurs.)

Note: Students that have not satisfied code violations will not be considered for court (Homecoming or Prom) participation.

High School					
Major Violation Consequences					
Sport		1st Violation with Honesty		1st Violation	2nd Violation
Football		1 game		2 games	4 games
Volleyball		2 games		4 games	8 games
Cross Country		1 meet		2 meets	4 meets
Golf		1 match		2 matches	4 matches
Basketball		2 games		4 games	8 games
Cheer/Dance		1 event		2 events	4 event
Baseball		2 games		4 games	8 games
Softball		2 games		4 games	8 games

Middle School					
Major Violation Consequences					
Sport		1st Violation with Honesty		1st Violation	2nd Violation
Football		1		2 games	4 games
Volleyball		2 games		4 games	8 games
Cross Country		1 meet		2 meets	4 meets
Basketball		2 games		4 games	8 games
Cheer/		1 event		2 events	4 events

Dance				
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No Quit Policy (Athletes Only)

Students (Juniors and Seniors) will not be able to join an additional sport to avoid a consequence by participating in only part of that sport's season. The student may join an additional sport but must remain on the team for the entire season for the consequence to be considered fulfilled. The Athletic Director shall have discretionary authority to make decisions in this area.

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATION:

Middle School students will adhere to the Activities Code policy.

Upon entering high school, students having Activities Code violations while in middle school will have a one (1) calendar year probationary period (August 1st to July 30th).

If a violation takes place during the probationary year, it will be handled according to the above violation chart. (For instance if the student is in football and had one violation (2 game suspension) while in middle school, a violation during the probationary period will result in a second violation (4 game suspension).)

If no violation occurs the student will be given a "clean slate."

II. ATHLETIC ACADEMIC POLICY

After the first mid-quarter, grades will be checked by the AD and School Counselor weekly. Students will attend the study table until passing all classes. If the student fails to report to the study table two times, when in attendance for the regular school day, they will be ineligible to participate in any sport or activity..

If a student is receiving a failing grade (F) for one course at the end of term, see chart below for ineligible competitions. Athletes may still practice and attend games at the discretion of the coach.

If a student is receiving multiple failing course grades at the end of term, see chart below for ineligible competitions per "F" received or 15 scheduled school days (whichever is the greater amount of time). . Athletes may still practice and attend games at the discretion of the coach. (per WIAA requirements)

Athletes must be passing all current courses to regain eligibility. The athlete is immediately ineligible again if any course grade falls to a failing grade until they bring it up to a passing grade. Athletes may still practice and attend games at the discretion of the coach.

Student's grade falls to an "F" during a grading period or mid quarter, the student will attend the study table until passing all classes. If the student fails to report to the study table two times, when in attendance for the regular school day, they will be ineligible to participate in any sport or activity until passing.

High School		
Academic Violation Consequences		
Sport		1st Violation
Football		2 games
Volleyball		4 games
Cross Country		2 meets
Golf		2 matches

Basketball		4 games
Cheer/Dance		2 events
Baseball		4 games
Softball		4 games

Middle School		
Major Violation Consequences		
Sport		1st Violation
Football		2 games
Volleyball		4 games
Cross Country		2 meets
Basketball		4 games
Cheer/Dance		2 events

III. TRANSFER STUDENT & FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT ELIGIBILITY (Athletics Only)

1. Transfer students require special review by the athletic director.
2. All transfer students will initially be considered ineligible until the athletic director has declared the student meets school and WIAA requirements. Transfer students must provide the athletic director an eligibility sheet from their transferring school.

Information Taken From WIAA Regulations:

- Student athletic eligibility, for all levels of competition, is governed by WIAA rules.
- Transfer students require special review by the athletic director.
- We advise that all transfer students initially be considered ineligible until the athletic director has declared the student meets school and WIAA requirements.
- For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or one athletic practice determines the 'beginning of school year.' A student who transfers after the beginning of the school year will be ineligible for varsity competition at the new school unless a waiver is granted by the WIAA Board of Control.

APPLIES TO ALL SCHOOLS - PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC

A student who transfers from any school into a member school, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parents, must do so before attending one or more days of school or one or more athletic practices at the school the student is leaving. If not, the student is ineligible for varsity level competition for the remainder of that school year.

With written consent from administrators of both schools directly involved, a first time transfer student shall be eligible for non-varsity competition only for the duration of the school year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the Senior High Handbook.

A student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that school year.

A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.

No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A student who transfers with an unserved code of conduct suspension must serve the suspension, as decreed by the previous school, at the new school.

RESIDENCE - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A student, regardless of age, is eligible for varsity competition only in the district in which both parents reside in their primary residence. A secondary residence does not meet WIAA requirements. There are some considerations for divorced families, social services placement, tuition-paying students, home life betterment, or extenuating circumstances, but these must be cleared through the WIAA.

A student who attends a school outside their parents' residence boundaries under the state mandated open enrollment provision is eligible, from a residence standpoint. However, if this student transfers back to the school of residence, after attending one athletic practice and/or one day of school at the selected school he/she is ineligible for varsity competition for the remainder of that school year.

A full time student whose residence in a district does not conform with requirements for varsity eligibility may only compete at the non-varsity level for the duration of the school year.

9TH GRADE STUDENTS

A first-time 9th grade student will be permitted one transfer upon appropriate petition to the Board of Control if the student has attended no more than three days of practice and/or has attended no more than three days of school. A transfer after three days will result in a student being ineligible for varsity competition unless a waiver is provided.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Foreign students attending a member school through CSIET - "Full" approved programs may receive one year of athletic eligibility if approved by the WIAA. Foreign students at residential schools are eligible if approved by the WIAA.

Directly placed exchange students and foreign students attending member schools through non-CSIET approved programs will be limited to non-varsity competition.

Foreign students who transfer from one school to another must initially be considered ineligible the same as any other transfer student.

Random Drug Screening

The School Board may implement a random drug/alcohol screening program for students covered by the Activities Code. For the purposes of this policy random shall mean the random drawing of student names who are currently participating in an athletic or co-curricular activity.

IV. ACTIVITIES: GROUP B

Minor violations will be investigated and consequences determined by the Principal and Athletic Director.

Major Violations which consist of actions such as:

- Use, possession, buying or selling of drugs, vapes, alcohol, tobacco products, E-Cigarettes, inhalants, other illicit substances, or their look alike.
- Willful representation of the use, possession, buying or selling of the above mentioned substances.
- Displaying poor sportsmanship while at a practice or activity event.
- Violation of Wisconsin Criminal Statutes.

Disciplinary action for Major Violations will be as follows:

Offense 1: Five hours of community service as determined by the Principal and AD.

Offense 2: Twenty hours of community service as determined by the Principal and AD.

Offense 3: The student is prohibited from participating activities in any way for the equivalent of one calendar year.

Students under a one year suspension may get a reduction to 50% of the calendar year, if completing an SSS plan. The SSS plan needs to be completed prior to returning to practice or events.

Offense 4: Suspension from all extracurricular activities for the rest of the student's high school career.

Note: Students that have not satisfied code violations will not be considered for court (Homecoming or Prom) participation.

No Quit Policy (Co-Curricular Only)

Students (Juniors and Seniors) will not be able to join an additional sport to avoid a consequence by participating in only part of that sport's season. The student may join an additional sport but must remain on the team for the entire season for the consequence to be considered fulfilled. The Athletic Director shall have discretionary authority to make decisions in this area.

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATION:

Middle School students will adhere to the Activities Code policy.

Upon entering high school, students having Activities Code violations while in middle school will have a one (1) calendar year probationary period (August 1st to July 30th).

If a violation takes place during the probationary year, it will be handled according to the above violation chart. (For instance if the student is in football and had one violation (2 game suspension) while in middle school, a violation during the probationary period will result in a second violation (4 game suspension).)

If no violation occurs the student will be given a "clean slate."

V. ACTIVITIES ACADEMIC POLICY

After the first mid-quarter, grades will be checked by the AD and School Counselor weekly. Students will attend the study table until passing all classes. If the student fails to report to the study table two times, when in attendance for the regular school day, they will be ineligible to participate in any sport or activity.

Any student receiving any failing grades (F) at the end of a grading period or mid quarter will get an Academic Reinstatement Form (Appendix A) from the office and will need to get it signed by the teacher

weekly until it is verified that they are passing the course. The form should be turned in to the advisor and AD.

VI. ACTIVITY DAY & POST GAME DAY ATTENDANCE: (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

To participate at an event, attendance in school at least the entire half day after lunch on a game day is required unless the absence is excused by the coach/advisor, Athletic Director or Principal PRIOR to the absence. (Reasons for absence may include an emergency, serious illness, or death in the family.) Students are expected to be in school the full day following a contest. Any unexcused absences the day following a contest prohibits the student from participating in the next contest of the season in which the violation occurred. Patterns of "Excused" absences after a game will be monitored and an excess of these may result in ineligibility.

VII. CARE OF EQUIPMENT (Both Athletic and Co-curricular)

1. The care and maintenance of equipment and school property (including school lockers) will be the responsibility of the students and the school district.
2. Students are responsible for turning in any borrowed equipment when the activity concludes for the year.
3. Individual awards may be withheld if equipment is not turned in on time.
4. Students will not be issued equipment in the next activity they participate in until all equipment is turned in or paid for.
5. Lost and/or damaged items must be paid for by the student.

VIII. APPEAL PROCEDURE:

If the athlete and/or parents or guardians are not in agreement with the disciplinary action taken, the appeal procedure, which is shown on the following pages, will be followed:

PROCEDURE OF DUE PROCESS:

"Due process" is a procedure, which the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. "Due process" furthermore, and of primary importance, recognizes the rights of the individual since it outlines one's recourse in the event one feels a wrong decision has been made. The "due process" steps outlined hereafter is the procedure for a student and his/her parents to follow in appealing decisions relating to violation status and disciplinary consequences. It should be understood that students and parents will be expected to follow the "due process" steps in the event legal action should be initiated at some later date.

Step 1 - Appeal to Athletic Council

1. After a ruling of ineligibility resulting in suspension from athletics/co-curricular activity has been made, a student and/or his/her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the Athletic Director provided an appeal is received within 7 school days from date of the Athletic Director's decision of ineligibility. During summer vacation, the timeline will be 10 calendar days, including weekends.

2. After an appeal has been received a date for a hearing with the Athletic Council will be established by the Athletic Director, such date shall be no later than seven school or working days (when suspension is for a sport for which the athlete is currently participating) after receipt of the written appeal from the student and his/her parents. The Athletic Council shall consider the Athletic Director's investigation of the alleged violation(s), hear from eye-witnesses, and hear testimony by the student and/or parent(s). Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the student and his/her parents.

3. The Athletic Council consists of all Head Varsity Coaches and the advisor(s) of the co-curricular activity (activities) that the student participates in. In the absence of a Head Coach, an Assistant Coach may participate. Where individuals coach multiple sports, an individual may cast only 1 vote. The Athletic Director, if also serving as a coach, may NOT cast a vote.

Step 2 - Appeal to School Board

1. If the student and his/her parents are not satisfied with the finding of the hearing, a second appeal may be requested before the School Board. The Athletic Director must receive in writing a request for a third hearing before the School Board of Education within 7 school/working days of the mailing of the outcome of the Athletic Council hearing. The appeal shall consider the written record of the Athletic Council's hearing and witnesses who participated in the Step 1 Appeal: any "new" information or eyewitness accounts shall only be reconsidered by the Athletic Council. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed or emailed to the student and his/her parents.

2. The athlete has the right to counsel at the hearing on the appeal.

3. The decision by the School Board is final.

X. Parental Behavior (Both Athletic and Co-curricular):

Parents play an important role in supporting students who are involved in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Many of life's greatest lessons are learned through participation in these events and activities.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in athletics are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. To this end we ask that parents agree to the following:

1. To refrain from coaching one's child or other players during contests and practices.
2. To respect the officials and their authority during contests and not to question, discuss or confront coaches at the contest field.
3. To remember that student participants participate to have fun and that the contest is for youth, not adults.
4. To teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a contest or his or her performance.

5. To demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
6. To promote the emotional and physical well being of the student athletes ahead of any personal desire one may have for his/her own child to win.
7. To not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the student athletes.
8. To be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all student participants, coaches, officials, and spectators at every contest, practice or sporting event.
9. To not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
10. To support the contents of the Activities Code especially as it relates to maintaining good grades, school attendance and behavior.
11. To support an alcohol/chemical free lifestyle for students.

Appendix A:

ACADEMIC REINSTATEMENT FORM

STUDENT:

DATE:

FORM DUE DATE:

Teacher, sign only if the student is currently passing your class.

Students need to obtain teacher signatures and return this form to their coach or the AD by the due date to maintain eligibility. Failure to turn in on time will result in ineligibility until the form is turned in.

Class	Current Grade	Teacher Signature	Date Signed

Appendix B:

AGREEMENT OF PARENT(S) AND STUDENT

1. We, as parents and co/extra-curricular participants, have carefully read the Birchwood School Activities Code and by our signatures, understand them and agree to the procedures set forth for implementation. We understand that changes may be made in the Activities Code in the future for which students will need to follow. This agreement extends until another one is signed.
2. We also acknowledge that all athletic and co-curricular equipment issued remains the property of Birchwood High School and any items not returned, at the termination of competition, will be charged to us at the fair market price. We also acknowledge that upon proper filing of a permission slip, parents (or other adult relative) only may transport their student(s) home from an event.
3. We also understand that the
no longer offers insurance.
4. My son/daughter is adequately covered by our personal insurance, or we will assume all medical responsibility.

Parent Signature

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date of Signature

I, _____ give my permission for
Parent's Name

Student's Name (my child) to receive necessary medical attention.

Parent's Signature

REF: Drug Free Policy
Discipline Policies

[1] WIAA requirements may change from time to time and it is the responsibility of parents and athletes to be in compliance with these changes. On an annual basis the Athletic Director will provide an official WIAA handout regarding eligibility.

Appendix C:

SSS Option

Offense 2 (Athletics Only)

If a student has an offense concerning vaping, they will complete 2 counseling sessions on the hazards of vaping.

If a student has an offense concerning AODA, other than vaping, they will complete 2 counseling sessions on the hazards of drugs. They may also be randomly tested for drugs.

If a student has an offense concerning poor sportsmanship, they will complete 2 counseling sessions on Good Sportsmanship.

Offense 3

If a student has an offense concerning vaping, they will complete 3 counseling sessions on the hazards of vaping.

If a student has an offense concerning AODA, other than vaping, they will complete 3 counseling sessions on the hazards of drugs. They may also be randomly tested for drugs.

If a student has an offense concerning poor sportsmanship, they will complete 3 counseling sessions on Good Sportsmanship.