

ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION PLEDGE FORM

CHEMICAL USE POLICY

The opportunity to participate in the extracurricular program sponsored by Laurel Public Schools is a privilege extended to all district students. Students who choose to be part of the program are expected to make the commitment to adhere to the philosophy and rules governing the various activities making up the district's extracurricular program. The board believes that participation in these types of activities can contribute to the all-around development of our students.

Use or Possession of Illegal Drugs, Alcohol, or Tobacco

The board further believes that necessary and proper rules governing the use of illegal substances serve the following purposes:

1. To emphasize concern for the health and well-being of students while participating in activities.
2. To provide an environment for the participants that is drug, alcohol, and tobacco free.
3. To promote a sense of self-discipline among the students.
4. To confirm and support existing state laws governing minors and their use and abuse of illegal substances.
5. To emphasize standards of conduct for those students who through their participation are leaders and role models for their peers and younger students.
6. To assist students who desire to resist peer pressure to possess and use these substances.

Coverage

These rules cover the use, personal possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, and the abuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs. The policy is not intended to apply to the use of prescribed drugs, under a doctor's supervision, when those drugs are used in the prescribed manner.

A participant is in violation of this policy if he or she is knowingly in attendance at a gathering or function where illegal substances (except tobacco products) are present unless it is a family or recognized community gathering or function. Even if the participant is not in possession of, or using, an illegal substance at the gathering or function, he or she will be subject to the consequences as outlined in this policy.

First Violation – The student will be suspended from the activity they are currently participating in or the next activity they participate in for two weeks of competition. The offender may practice, but cannot participate in a formal activity or performance. As part of this ban on participation, the student will not be allowed to be part of the team or group during an activity either home or away. The student will be required to meet with a Chemical Dependency Counselor for an evaluation and provide written documentation verifying the appointment.

Second Violation – The student will be suspended or excluded from ALL extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. The student will also be required to meet with a Chemical Dependency Counselor for additional evaluation services and provide written documentation verifying this appointment. This verification must be provided to the school district before the student is allowed to participate in any activities the following year.

If the 2nd violation occurs during the spring activities season or summer, the student athlete will be suspended for the following 1st semester activities.

Violations

The district may become aware of infractions through law enforcement or court officers. Otherwise, student infractions must be reported and/or validated by employees of Laurel School District or members of the Board of Trustees if action is to be taken under this policy. The district reserves the right to conduct its own investigation, make a determination of guilt, and apply sanctions independent of any pending court action against the student arising from the same offense.

Policy Duration

The policy duration for this policy covers the school year including summer months. Continuation and the number of violations coverage follow the first day of fall practice through the school year and summer, until the day before the next year fall activities. 8/15/24 - 8/14/25.

Academic Eligibility

The students meeting the eligibility requirements of the Montana High School Association and the local requirements of Laurel High School are eligible to compete in extra-curricular activities.

In general, students are eligible by meeting the following requirements and the Montana High School Association regulations, Laurel High School/Middle School student handbook, and student pledge:

- 1) Student is in regular attendance and is enrolled and receiving a passing grade in all but one subject, and he/she is maintaining a 2.0 grade point average during each mid-term and quarter grading periods. At the end of the semester,

the semester grade will be the determining factor at the high school level. All class grades are computed for eligibility requirements.

2) For incoming freshmen students, the 4th quarter grades will carry over to determine eligibility.

Students Absent From School

I understand if I/we are absent any part of the day of an activity, or practice, I will not be permitted to practice or participate in that event. If a student is absent the Friday before an event, or the next day (Saturday), they may be permitted to take part in the activity during that Saturday with the written consent of the parent, the administration, and the head coach or group advisor of the event. On overnight trips when the team leaves before a Saturday, students who are absent on the day before may not be allowed to accompany the team. Approval for participation will be considered if the absence in question results from a previously scheduled medical/dental appointment, an appointment that satisfies requirements of the law, or if the absence results from a family emergency. A student will not be excused from assigned detention time for a practice or school activity.

Responsibility for Equipment Return

I agree to be responsible for the safe return or replacement of all athletic and/or activity equipment issued by the school.

Participation Risks

Participation in organized interscholastic athletics involves the potential for injury which is inherent in all sports. Even with competent coaching, the use of appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility. On rare occasions these injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis, quadriplegia, or even death. Because of these dangers, participants and parents/guardians must recognize the importance of following coaches' instructions regarding playing techniques, training and other team rules and agree to obey such instructions.

Emergency Medical Release

So that proper emergency assistance may be provided, I hereby authorize School District #7 and 7-70 and its representative in charge of my child named above to obtain all necessary medical care for my child, and I hereby authorize any licensed physician and/or medical personnel to render necessary medical treatment to my child.

Participation Fee

High School student participants will be required to pay a \$75.00 participation fee per sport. Middle school students will be required to pay a \$50.00 participation fee per sport. This fee must be paid at the high school office for high school activities and at the middle school for middle school activities. A receipt must be given to the participant. Any participant who has not paid the fee by the second (2nd) week of the season will not be able to participate in contests until it has been paid.

Parent/Guardian Statement

I/we hereby certify and affirm that I/we are the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of _____
I/we have read and understand this pledge. I/we also understand that all sports may involve risks of injury, including, but not limited to those risks that have been outlined above. I/we hereby consent to participation by the above named student, and agree that the above named student and I/we assume all risks of playing or practicing to play/participate.

Signatures

I/we have read and understand the information contained in this form.

Participant

Date

Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian

Date