

Brewer Community School Student-Athlete Code of Conduct:

Eligibility-

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are eligible to participate in athletics at Brewer Community School. In situations where 5th graders are needed on "B" team rosters, a separate tryout for those students will be held once team sizes and needs are determined.

5th graders will be permitted to participate in Cross Country beginning in the fall of 2015.

(Covid related changes are shown in RED)

Students who fail more than one academic course in a reporting period are ineligible to participate in athletics until the next reporting period clears the student academically. ~~For Winter 2020-2021, students who fail a course in Trimester 1 will be placed on "academic probation". Any student who has failed more than one course in Trimester 1 will not be permitted to access BCS athletics. "Probation" allows the student to practice with their team, but not play in any games. Prior to the Holiday break in December 2020, a check-in on the student's progress will occur. If at this time the student is passing each Trimester 2 course, the student will be removed from probation for the duration of the winter season and can begin game play with the January sports schedule. If the student is failing one or more course during this December check-in, there will be a weekly grade check-in through the season to determine game day play eligibility for that coming week. Check-in will occur each Friday. The student will need two check-in weeks in a row to be removed from probation. (*reporting periods are defined as the end of each trimester).~~

Appeals of academic eligibility are to be made to the school principal.

Academic Eligibility simplified:

- All student-athletes are eligible for fall athletics (soccer, cross country and field hockey).
- The first trimester will determine ~~continued~~ eligibility in winter athletics (basketball and cheerleading).
- The second trimester will determine eligibility for spring athletics (softball, baseball, track & field).

Students will also be determined ineligible on a day to day, or game by game basis based on demerits accumulated as well as suspensions from school. Student suspension will also result in a period of ineligibility as outlined in the student handbook.

Substance Use/Abuse-

Any student-athlete found to be in possession, or discovered to have been in the presence of under-age individuals using tobacco (or tobacco related products such as e-cigarettes, JUUL, etc), alcohol, and/or illegal/non-prescribed medications will be removed from participation and referred to the school resource officer for substance use counseling. Reinstatement can be granted once cleared by a licensed professional and the administrative team at BCS (which includes the AD, principal, asst. principal and SRO).

Transportation-

The Brewer School Department will provide transportation to all “off-campus” interscholastic contests outside of the Brewer city limits. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to provide/arrange for transportation to and from practices and home events including practice facilities within the city of Brewer. We ask that parents are prompt in their pickup of their children after an event as coaches are asked to stay with athletes until they are picked up.

Transportation Behavior-

Transportation to and from events is a privilege and not a right. Students must behave and adhere to all bus rules as set forth by the bus driver, bus company, school department, and coaching staff. Students who do not adhere to these rules will not be permitted to travel for away contests for an amount of time to be determined by the coaching staff and/or school administration. Additionally, when a student is suspended from the bus, the student-athlete is not permitted to participate in “off-campus” away athletic activities until their bus suspension has ended.

Physicals-

All student-athletes are required to have a physical on file with the school nurse’s office prior to athletic activity at BCS. The school based health center can provide students with a basic sports physical by appointment. One physical is required during a student’s tenure at BCS. It is recommended that students obtain this physical once enrolled in the 6th grade.

Registration-

Beginning in the spring of 2020, the registry for BCS went to an online portal system. All students must be registered prior to accessing athletic activity at Brewer Community School. Registrations will not be accepted on the day of the activity. The student will wait until the next day to join in the activity.

General Conduct of Student/Athletes-

Student-athletes represent their families, their school, and their community as a whole. Most importantly, student-athletes represent themselves. Conduct of student-athletes is very important. Students will show respect for their teachers, administrators, school staff, coaches, officials, opponents, and bus drivers at all times. Failure to adhere to this concept will result in loss of playing time privileges as determined by the coaching staff and/or school administrators.

Participation in external sport organizations within a BCS athletic season-

The Brewer Witches Athletic department will adopt a similar policy used at the high school level with regards to middle school participation at BCS plus extra sport organizations within a given sport season.

The MPA “Bona Fide Team Rule” and Brewer Community School allows, with permission from the coach and /or administrator, a student-athlete to miss one team session to access another sport organization. On the second absence, the athlete will be removed from further participation with the school team.

Commitment to a Brewer School Department team is considered essential and important. Any other expectations devalues the program and the efforts of others who are committed to the Brewer School Department.

Expectations of Parents-

Middle school level athletics should never emphasize wins and losses or individual statistics. While we do keep score, the result at the end of the regulation clock, after a race, or after all of the innings are played is not what is important at this most developmentally crucial level. Our goal is to teach your child skills they can carry with them to the high school level and for later on in life. Along with basic sport specific concepts and skills, the coaching staff is attempting to teach your child “life skills”, such as teamwork, commitment, coping, communication and personal responsibility.

Brewer Community School athletic parents will be known for the following benchmarks:

- Support their coach and children in the efforts to develop important life skills.
- Support their coach and children in their efforts to develop basic sport skills.
- Support their coach and children in their efforts to develop basic conceptual skills of the particular sport.
- Provide space for the coaches and children to grow as individuals.
- Respect the decisions of coaches and game officials during contests.
- Respect the facility our children are competing at and coaches are working in.

Failure to adhere to any or all of these benchmarks will result in removal from the event and possible restrictions from future events involving Brewer Community School athletics.

Parents/guardians are asked to bring matters regarding unethical, physically irresponsible, and/or immoral treatment of their child directly to the attention of the school's administration immediately.

All other issues regarding your own child's athletic experience can be directed first to your child's coach. Those issues may include, but are not limited to, your own child's role on their team, skill development of your child, behavior of your child. Coaches and administrators will never discuss game strategy or playing time of other student-athletes with parents/guardians.

Lastly, it is never appropriate or acceptable for a parent to approach a coach about any controversial issue directly before or after game, match or meet. A meeting with the Athletic Administrator, coach, parent(s)/guardians and possibly the student-athlete affected may follow if this occurs.

What can parents expect of our coaches:

- Effective communicator towards the student-athletes and home.
- Approachable during the appropriate times as outlined above.
- Caring about the overall development of the student-athlete (both athletically and most importantly, academically and socially).
- Enthusiastic and positive.
- Will develop the student-athlete to the best of his or her ability to teach the sport.

If a parent feels a coach is not adhering to any of the above components, parent are encouraged to contact the school administration, specifically, the athletic director to discuss their concerns.

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