

Table of Contents

I.	Statement of Philosophy	Page 2
II.	Process of Resolving Athletic Issues	Page 2
III.	Categories of Participation	Page 2
IV.	Requirements to Participate	Page 2
V.	Behavioral Expectations to be Eligible for Participation in Extracurricular Events	Page 3
VI.	Academic Eligibility	Page 6
VII.	Athletic Residency & Transfer Eligibility	Page 8
VIII.	WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin	Attached

I. STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Racine Unified School District sponsors and encourages student participation in athletics as a means of providing opportunities for personal growth, skill development, socialization, creativity, and competitive experience. It is the position of the Racine Unified School District that involvement in athletics is a privilege, not a right, with accompanying responsibilities and expectations. When a student decides to participate in athletics, they are expected to know and understand the rules of the athletic code. A parent/guardian and student must provide a yearly signature on the physical (green) or alternate year (beige) card indicating knowledge of the athletic code.

II. PROCESS OF RESOLVING ATHLETIC ISSUES

A. Conflict Resolution

Student/parental concerns **must** be addressed by using the following order of communication:

- 1st Communication with coaching staff
- 2nd Activities Director
- 3rd Directing Principal
- 4th Area Superintendent
- 5th Superintendent of Schools

B. Any participant alleged to have violated any rule governing extracurricular activities would be called before a high school administrator or Activities Director concerning the alleged violation. The parent/guardian will be notified in writing of all (CONDUCT) rule violations. The participant shall have a full opportunity to respond to the allegations.

III. CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPATION

For purposes of establishing equitable standards to apply to the athletic activities offered to students at Racine Unified School District, the categories of participation are defined as follows:

- A. Interscholastic Athletic Teams
- B. Cheerleading
- C. Pom Poms

IV. REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

Practice Permit requirements (must be on file before a Practice Permit can be issued)

- WIAA Physical or Alternate Year Card
- R.U.S.D. User Fee as set by School Board
- Insurance waiver
- All outstanding athletic equipment returned or paid for
- Parent/guardian and participant signature on card shows that this document has been read.

V. BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS

A. Specific student requirements

1. Comply with Racine Unified School District Athletic Activities Code.
2. Meet academic standards of eligibility.
3. Follow guidelines established by the advisor or coach.
4. Meet expectations of all classes on a daily basis unless otherwise excused.
5. Comply with R.U.S.D. Rules of Eligibility as defined in this policy.
6. Comply with W.I.A.A. Rules of Eligibility that includes, but is not limited to, the following language on undue influence. "No eligibility will be granted for a student 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."
7. Be in attendance at least one-half of the day of a contest, unless in extreme emergency when cleared through his/her school principal. Students may not participate in any extracurricular activity - including practice - during/after school on the same day as an absence whether excused or unexcused unless arrangements are made with the Sub-school Office before the absence.
8. Meet attendance requirements as outlined in the Dance Policy guidelines as stated in the Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities. Student must be in good attendance standing in order to participate in athletics for the whole school year.

- B. The following rules are in effect for the entire school year (including summer) commencing with the first activity in which the student participates. From that time on, the student must comply with these rules and guidelines for the remainder of his or her high school career.

1. CONDUCT

- a. At all times, the student participant must refrain from the consumption, selling, buying, distribution or possession of any amount of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or controlled substances. Students who self report an alcohol/drug violation to the Activities Director or School Administrator PRIOR to the Activities Director or School Administrator interviewing the individual for the alleged violation shall receive a 50% reduction in the penalty imposed.

The WIAA and Racine Unified School District is against the use of anabolic-androgenic steroids and other performance enhancing substances (PES). Coaches, teachers, sports medicine staff and school administrators who ignore or encourage the use of PES, provide and/or sell PES to athletes (including indirect distribution through a third party) shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from employment.

- b. At all times the participant shall also refrain from any conduct or acts which are generally considered to be unbecoming of a participant representing his/her school, including but not limited to criminal behavior (i.e. hazing, cyber bullying, etc.) An athlete is at risk of guilt by association by being

present at events/parties where drugs or alcohol are possessed and/or consumed illegally by minors.

- c. Any behavior that results in an in-school suspension during the season of participation will result in the participant being ineligible for the next contest/competition/performance upon verification of such suspension by the Activities Director. (Not subject to appeal through the athletic office; Directing Principal only.)
- d. Any behavior that results in an out-of-school suspension will be subject to the penalties as cited in Section V of this policy, including but not limited to:
 - Verbal abuse
 - Theft
 - Vandalism
 - Fighting/physical abuse

(Not subject to appeal through the athletic office; parent complaint form to Director of Support Services only.)

- e. A felony conviction will result in a third-violation-level of penalty.
 - f. Violation of the Racine Unified School District Dance Policy.
2. Honesty Clause: If a Racine Unified School District Administrator or Activities Director has a reasonable suspicion that a specific R.U.S.D. student may have violated the district's behavioral expectations, he/she shall question that student about the possible violation. In responding to any such questioning about his/her personal actions, it is expected that the student will answer truthfully. If a student's answer is subsequently found to be untrue, the student will be moved to the next applicable level of discipline because of his/her untruthfulness.
3. Conduct and Attendance Penalties for Violations

First Violation: Restriction from competition/performance for a period of 25% of the contests based on a regular season from that activity. A student disciplined for the first violation may practice but cannot be in uniform during the suspension. This includes post-season competition. The suspended student must follow all extracurricular code rules. *Freshman Modification - Any freshman participant, who incurs a first violation suspension and has no more violations for the remainder of the school year, will have the record of the first violation suspension cleared. If another suspension occurs during this period, the student would automatically fail the probation and all records would stand.*

Second Violation: Restriction from competition/performance for a period of 50% of the contests based on the regular season of that activity. A student disciplined for the second violation may practice but cannot be in uniform during the suspension. This includes post-season competition. The suspended student must follow all extracurricular codes.

In the 1st and 2nd violations, any remaining number of contests of the suspension not served during the regular season, not including post-season, of the activity will be applied at the beginning of the next sport season in which the student participates. A participant, who is ineligible for the first contest of WIAA post-season play, will remain ineligible for the remainder of post-season play. If the participant in violation chooses not to complete the season, the assigned penalty will not have been officially

served. Penalties for violations that occur out of season will be applied to the next season of participation. The student athlete must complete the next season in good standing to regain eligibility.

Third Violation: If a third violation occurs, the participant shall be dropped from all activities covered by this Code for the remainder of his/her high school career. An appeal for reinstatement may be made to the participant's school administration only after one calendar year has elapsed from the date of offense. The appeal must be in writing to the Activities Director. The student's behavior and attendance will be evaluated in considering the appeal.

Varsity Sport	Maximum # of Contests	Varsity Sport	Maximum # of Contests
Baseball	26	Softball	20
Basketball	20	Swimming	14
Cheerleading/Poms	TBD	Tennis	14
Cross Country	11	Track	20
Football	9	Volleyball	15
Golf	14	Wrestling	14
Soccer	24		

# of Contests	7/8	9/10	11/12	13/14	15/16	17/18	19/20	21/22	23/24	25/26
25%	2	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7
50%	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

*JV/Freshman contests will be divided by 4 for 1st offense and 2 for 2nd offense (rounding up).

C. Appealing Activities Suspension

1. Requesting an Appeal

Athletic suspensions based on In-School and Out-of-School suspensions may not use the Athletic Appeals Process.

For suspension not based on In-School or Out-of-School suspension, a participant and/or the parent(s) or guardians may appeal if they can provide significant evidence that the facts of the case are in question. A written request for an appeal hearing must be made to the Activities Director within five (5) consecutive school days from the date of the suspension letter. The letter must include the statements of evidence on which the appeal is based. The participant remains on suspension during the appeal process.

2. The Appeals Committee

a. The Appeals Committee will meet to hear the appeal within ten (10) consecutive school days of the request. The Appeals Committee will be made up of the following individuals from the involved school:

1. The Activities Director will be chairperson and will have no vote.

2. One administrator not involved in the case.
 3. Four (4) professionally certified district employees selected by the principal.
3. Appeal Hearing Procedures
- a. Participants must be present and represented by an adult. Parent(s)/ guardian(s) or individuals representing the participant may attend the hearing.
 1. The chairperson will review the procedures to be followed during the hearing and answer any questions that will clarify those procedures.
 2. The Activities Director who issued the suspension will give:
 - (a) The specific charges against the participant in written form.
 - (b) A summary of the overall situation and details of the incident using witnesses if needed to substantiate the violation.
 - (c) The nature of the disciplinary measures taken as a result of the violation.
 - (d) The participant or his/her representative(s) may ask questions necessary to bring out facts or clarify points of dispute.
 3. The participant or his/her representative(s) may present his/her involvement in the incident using witnesses if needed to bring out facts and/or to serve as a defense.
 4. The Activities Director may ask questions necessary to bring out facts or clarify points of dispute.
 5. The Appeal Committee members may ask questions of any witnesses at any time.
 6. Each party will summarize his/her position for members of the Appeal Committee.
 7. Within five (5) consecutive school days of the hearing, a decision will be made regarding the appeal. This decision will be determined by a simple majority of the five (5) voting members of the Appeals Committee. It will be the responsibility of the Chairperson to inform the participant of the decision.
 8. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final.
(NOTE: A taped transcript of the appeal hearing will be made as a record of the proceedings.)

VI. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- A. A student must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent grade-reporting period.

A senior who has acquired all necessary credits toward graduation is not exempt from this rule.

1. A student who becomes academically ineligible may regain eligibility on the 16th scheduled school day by meeting the academic standard, following a period of 15 scheduled school days and nights of ineligibility
2. A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes are made up within two weeks after a grade-reporting period.
3. A student may erase ineligibility status related to the last grade-reporting period of the school year through summer school courses (including correspondence courses) at the same or some other school, provided:
 - a. The student successfully completes not less than the same number of courses, which caused ineligibility.
4. The student who continues to be academically ineligible following the 15-day grade check will be ineligible for the remainder of the sport season.
5. A student who is enrolled in some courses in a university/college or technical college or some similar institution:
 - a. Must received high school credit which meets the academic standard or have a notation made on his/her high school transcript that he/she successfully met the equivalent of the academic standard between the two schools involved.

Note: A student who has been assigned to a technical college by the school district is exempt from the provision requiring physical attendance at least one course each day, provided such a student continues being carried on the attendance rolls for purposes of state aid.
6. A student who is enrolled in any state-approved EEN program and receives no grades for such courses may be eligible if he/she is making satisfactory progress in his/her total school program as indicated by his/her IEP.
7. The ineligibility status described in the introduction to this Section (A) will be adjusted as follows for students in fall sports in which the date of earliest allowed competition is before the first day students are in class:
 - a. Fall Sports – The minimum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of (1) 21 calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport or (2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction).
8. A school because of computer printout of grades being delayed may use a prearranged date other than the last day of a grade-reporting period to determine eligibility, provided (a) all other provisions of this Section (A) are followed and (b) the procedure developed is the same for all students, all grade-reporting periods, and all sports. Grade checks will be done on the Thursday of the week teachers' turn in grades.

VII. ATHLETIC RESIDENCY & TRANSFER ELIGIBILITY

A. Determining Residency

A student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) reside within the Racine Unified School District, with these additional provisions:

1. The residence of a student's guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
2. The residence of the custodial parent shall determine eligibility of a student in situations involving divorce or legal separation of parents. However, in situations involving court documented divorce or court documented legal separation of parents, a student is eligible if he/she resides with either parent at the beginning of the school year (first day of classes) but will be ineligible for the balance of the school year upon transfer to any other school unless approval is granted by the WIAA Board of Control on the basis of extenuating circumstances.
3. Students placed in foster homes, group homes, etc., by area social services agencies are considered the same as students residing with parents.
4. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student moves from within that school's attendance boundaries provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).
5. Students attending the Real or Walden High Schools are only eligible for interscholastic competition at the high school of primary residence (Case, Horlick, Park). Boundary Exemptions do not apply.

B. Transfer Eligibility

A full time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility or in some cases a denial of eligibility. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic school year shall be ineligible for varsity level competition at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in Section 5 of this Article. These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

1. 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.
2. Beginning in 2007-08, a student who transfers from any school into a member school after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be

ineligible for practice and competition for one calendar year, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year will be determined from a student's last day of attendance at school and/or last day of attendance at athletic practice.

3. Unless transfer, including an accompanying change of parent's residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.
 4. With written consent from both schools directly involved, a first time transfer student shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that school year.
 5. 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.
 6. A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who moved from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
 7. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
 8. 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.
- C. Transfer Due to an Exception to the Senior High School Boundaries. Administrative Action.

Any student who is transferred to another District school outside his/her attendance area will be ineligible from extracurricular activities for ONE (1) year from the date of his/her enrollment in the new school.

The one-year ineligibility period may be waived for students who transfer to participate in programs not offered at their school of residence (i.e. Case High School's International Baccalaureate Program). Students must maintain five of six I.B. courses to maintain enrollment status.

WIAA ELIGIBLTIY INFO FORM --- INSERT HERE

Want to Play? Then Follow the Rules:

- Grades
 - Attendance
 - Conduct
 - Transfer Rules
 - Sign-up
 - ✓ Physical Exam
 - ✓ Health Insurance
 - ✓ User Fee
 - ✓ Emergency Card
-

DO NOT SIGN YOUR

PHYSICAL (GREEN) CARD

-OR-

ALTERNATE YEAR (BEIGE) CARD

UNLESS YOU HAVE READ THE CODE

KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**You are expected to know the rules and
comply with this athletic code.**
