
GUIDELINES
FOR
STUDENT ACTIVITIES



MUSTANGS

MARQUETTE HIGH SCHOOL
*2351 CLARKSON ROAD*CHESTERFIELD, MO 63017*

STUDENT ACTIVITIES PHILOSOPHY

The opportunity for participation in a wide variety of student-selected activities is a vital part of the student's educational experience. These experiences contribute to the development of learning skills and emotional patterns that enable students to make maximum use of their education. Participation in activities is a privilege that carries with it responsibility to the school, to the activity/organization, to the student body, to the community, and to the individual student.

Marquette's student activities are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provides experiences that will help to develop young men and women physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally.

MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

Marquette High School is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). MSHSAA establishes regulations governing participation in activities in the state. These regulations are adopted by a vote of all member schools. It is the philosophy of the MSHSAA to guarantee that the focus of activities programs is educational in nature. The MSHSAA, through its member schools, establishes eligibility rules, individual sports rules, non-school competition standards, and athletic transfer policies, as well as organizing State Championships.

The following is a partial list of MSHSAA eligibility requirements. It is not complete and athletes should check with their coaches or with the Activities Director if they have any questions. These requirements are for all students who represent Marquette High School in competitions against other schools.

SEMESTER OF PARTICIPATION

A student shall not participate for more than four seasons while in grades 9-12 in any interscholastic activity. This shall be during the student's first eight semesters of attendance in high school beginning with his or her entrance into the ninth grade, and the eighth semester shall follow immediately the seventh semester.

AGE STANDARDS

A student shall not have reached the age of 19, prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school. If a student reaches the age of 19 on or following July 1, the student may be considered eligible for the ensuing school year. A freshman shall not have reached the age of sixteen prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school.

CONDITIONING STANDARDS

Each squad must have 14 days of practice and each individual must have participated in 14 school practices on 14 different days subsequent to the first interscholastic contest in all sports except golf, fall softball, and tennis. For the sports of golf, fall softball, and tennis each squad must have a minimum of 10 days of practice and each individual must have participated in 10 school practices on 10 different days subsequent to the first interscholastic contest. This requirement shall be waived if a student has been a member of another school sports squad immediately preceding the sport season and has had 14 days conditioning.

ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS

CITIZENSHIP - Students who represent Marquette High School must be creditable citizens. Those students whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon themselves or their school are not considered "creditible citizens." A student shall not be considered eligible while under suspension (either in school or out of school).

ACADEMICS - Students must be currently enrolled in courses offering 3.00 units of credit and have passed six subjects (3.00 units) the preceding semester. It is strongly recommended that all athletes take 7 classes. Credit earned during summer school may count for determining eligibility. Up to one credit may be earned in summer school and be applied to the previous semester credits. However not all classes count. Check with the Activities Director for more information. A repeated class already passed or an audited class does not count towards the 3.0 units of credit.

ENTERING SCHOOL - A student must have entered school within the first 11 days of the semester in which he/she is competing.

AWARDS STANDARD - A student must not have competed for or received an award of any kind other than that given by the school for services as an athlete in the sport in which he/she has competed.

ATTENDANCE - A student must reside in the boundaries for their school in order to attend that school. A student must live with their parents. Legal guardianship may enable a student to enroll in school but athletic eligibility is not guaranteed. If a student has a question regarding this, they should contact the Activities Director.

TRANSFER - A student who transfers from one school to another is usually eligible to participate in athletics if there is a corresponding change in the parents' residence. Without a corresponding change in residence a student may be eligible for sub varsity level sports only. These rules can be complicated. Any student contemplating a change in schools should check with the Activities Director.

NON-SCHOOL COMPETITION - A student may not compete during the season on an outside team in the same sport. A student may compete in a different sport with the approval of the coach and the Administration. Clinics or one-to-one instruction may be allowed. Check with the Activities Director.

RECRUITING - A student may not transfer from one school to another for athletic reasons. They must not have been influenced by a person or group of persons to attend that school.

SPORTSMANSHIP - If you should commit an unsportsmanlike act while participating in a high school event, you may become ineligible. If your conduct as a spectator, regardless of age, is found to be unsportsmanlike, you could be barred from attending Marquette High School contests.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

All students who represent the school in activities must attend school for the full day of classes in order to participate. They must be in regular full day attendance the day the activity is scheduled unless the activity is in another city and it is necessary that the student be absent or unless the activity is scheduled on a day when school is not in session. A full day of school is defined as being in school before the first period ends. If the competition is on a day when school is not in session, Students who have been unable to schedule dentist or doctor appointments on another day may be excused from this policy as long as they provide the coach with a written doctor's excuse. **An unexcused absence will prevent the student from competing that particular day and it will prevent the student from competing until a full day of classes has been attended.**

INFORMATION REQUIRED PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION

INSURANCE - A statement must be signed by an athlete's parent/guardian indicating that adequate coverage has been provided in event of injury to the athlete.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION/PARENT CONSENT FORM - MSHSAA by-laws require a physical examination each year. This examination is considered valid if signed on or after February 1 preceding the start of school. The physical examination form includes a statement from the physician stating that the student is physically able to participate. The examination form includes a statement indicating the parent's consent for participation in athletics.

A student shall not be permitted to practice or to compete until insurance and physical forms have been received.

All signatures on the above forms must be authentic. The coaches and administration of Marquette High School are responsible for determining that all athletes meet the requirements of the Missouri State High School Activities

Association in regard to parent and physician approval to participate in athletics. Any athlete who submits a form with a parent's or doctor's signature that is not authentic will forfeit the right to participate in interscholastic athletics at Marquette for the remainder of the athletic season for which the student is preparing to participate.

CATASTROPHE MEDICAL PLAN

Marquette participates in a catastrophic medical plan that provides extensive coverage for athletes who participate in athletics under the jurisdiction of the MSHSAA. This plan is for catastrophic injuries only. There is no cost for this program for the students participating in athletics. Any questions concerning the nature of this policy should be directed to the school Activities Director.

TRANSPORTATION

No athletic team, activities group, or special group will be transported in private automobiles, to or from activities without prior approval of the Activities Director. Students who are members of athletic teams, cheerleading squads, band members or other performing groups traveling to a contest, games, etc. will return on the bus provided by the school district. The sponsor may grant permission for a student to ride home with his/her **PARENTS** only.

EXPECTATIONS OF ACTIVITIES PARTICIPANTS

Marquette student activities participants are expected to:

1. Strive to achieve sound citizenship and desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, dependability, and respect for others and their abilities.
2. Regularly attend all classes and abide by all school rules. A student who misses classes on the date of a contest without being excused, shall not be considered eligible to practice or participate on that date.
3. Understand and abide by the academic and eligibility standards of the MSHSAA.
4. Show respect for both authority and property.
5. Make only positive remarks about coach, team, and teammates.
6. Exercise self-control at all times, accepting decisions and abiding by them.
7. Know, understand, and appreciate the rules of the contest.
8. Respect the official's judgment and interpretation of the rules. Never

- argue or make gestures indicating a dislike for a decision.
9. Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion, being neither boastful nor bitter.
 10. Accept the serious responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community.
 11. Realize that behavior, language, and appearance reflects not only on the individual, but also upon members of the team and the school.
 12. Recognize and appreciate the abilities of teammates and opponents.

Rockwood Creditable Citizenship Standards

Student activity discipline-related decisions will be enforced by the school building Activities Director. As stated in the MSHSAA Official Handbook, students who represent a school in interscholastic activities must be a creditable citizen both in and out of school, and judged so by the proper school authority certifying a list of students for competition. Creditable citizens shall be defined as those students who are not involved with weapons, alcohol, drugs, tobacco (including smokeless tobacco), stealing, vandalism, and any other act that would discredit the student or their school. The penalty for those students involved or having been involved with these types of acts will be:

- 1.) The student may be removed from the team or activity group for the remainder of the sport or activity season/semester. Immediately after the season, the Activities Director and head coach or sponsor involved with the particular student will review the student's discipline as to whether his/her eligibility will be reinstated into the activities program.

Note: The penalty for those students involved with these types of acts will be a possible loss of eligibility for 365 days regardless when it occurs.

It is also important to note that poor citizenship behavior will result in the same penalties regardless of the behavior occurring in school or out of school.

Consequences of In-School Discipline – Standards of Conduct

If and when a student receives school-related discipline, the consequence as it relates to the Rockwood Citizenship Policy will be as follows:

- 1.) 1st Detention
The student may miss the next contest, game, or performance.
- 2.) 2nd (and subsequent) Detentions, any number of days of In-School Suspension (ISS), or 1-2 days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

The student could be ineligible to participate in 20% of the contests, games, or performances during that sport or activity season.

3.) 3-5 Days Out-of-School Suspensions (OSS)

1st offense – The student could be ineligible to participate in 30% of the contests games, or performances during that sport or activity season.

2nd offense – The student will be removed from the activity for the remainder of the sport or activity season/semester.

4.) Major School Discipline (single offense, 6 or more days OSS)

1st offense – The student will be removed from the activity for the remainder of the sport or activity season/semester.

2nd offense – The student may be removed from the activity for up to 365 days.

Habitual offenders (3 or more suspensions regardless of offense) may lose the privilege of participating in all activities for the remainder of their high school career.

If a student suspension carries over from one school year to the next, the student will not be allowed to practice or participate in any activity until the full suspension is fulfilled (see Rockwood policy on Out of School Suspension).

Activity Board of Review

The Activity Board of Review is established for the purpose of allowing a student hearing should he/she desire, due to his/her being removed from a team for what has been deemed by the coach or Activities Director to be improper conduct.

If the coach, sponsor, or Activities Director removes the student from the team or group, and the student feels the punishment to be unfair or improper, then he/she may present a request in writing to the Activities Director asking for a hearing.

Within 48 hours of the receipt of the above request, the Activity Board of Review will meet to review all information pertaining to the case and render a judgment as to whether or not the action taken was appropriate. The Board will consist of five people: The Chairman/Activities Director or an assistant principal, and three coaches or sponsors (to be chosen by the chairman from three different activity groups or sports other than the sport in question). The coach or sponsor of the sport or activity group involved may attend as a non-voting member. In addition, the Activity Board of Review may be called upon by the Activities Director to review information pertaining to a case to determine if a student should be removed from a team/squad. Attorneys may not be present at any hearing conducted by the Activity Board of Review.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

Letters can be earned by students for participation in their activity. Each coach establishes awards guidelines for his/her sport and informs team members of these guidelines prior to the start of the season. Special awards may be given by the coaches.

FUNDRAISING

The Rockwood School District provides sufficient funding for its interscholastic sports programs. At times, however, coaches may wish to purchase awards or items to supplement their programs. If fundraising is done, all proceeds must be deposited in the club activity account. Purchases are then made using a district purchase order. Coaches and students who become involved in fundraising must be familiar with Rockwood District policies. If parents are involved in the fundraising activity they should also be familiar with these policies. Any questions should be directed to the Activities Office.

HAZING/BULLYING

It is not unusual for young people to believe that one method of achieving team cohesion is the use of some ritual indoctrination of younger athletes. This initiation can be as simple as forcing athletes to dress in outlandish clothes or as complex as forcing an athlete to perform some dangerous stunt. **Any form of hazing or bullying at Marquette is forbidden.** The potential for injury, both physical and psychological, outweighs any possible benefit.

PARENT/COACH (SPONSOR) COMMUNICATION

Marquette High School is committed to providing all of those involved in the activities program with a very positive experience. It is important for parents and participants to understand that having a positive experience is not always related to playing time or to being the “star” of the show. Participation yields its own rewards.

Even with the best intentions, problems between coaches and athletes, sponsors and club members sometimes develop. A parent has the right to expect clear communication from the coach/sponsor. A coach/sponsor has the right to expect clear communication from a student and the student’s parents.

Communication Coaches/Sponsor Expect from Parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach/sponsor
2. Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance
3. Specific concerns in regards to a coach/sponsor’s philosophy and/or expectations.

As your student becomes involved in the Marquette Activities Program, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to

understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your student wishes. At these times, a discussion with the coach/staff advisor is encouraged.

Communication You Should Expect From Your Student's Coach/Advisor

1. The philosophy of the coach/sponsor
2. Expectations the coach has for your student as well as all the players on the squad
3. Location and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
5. Discipline requirements in particular anything that could result in denial of participation.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coach/Sponsor

1. The treatment of your student, mentally and physically
2. Ways to help your student improve
3. Concerns about your student's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your student not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches/sponsors are professionals. They make judgement decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your student's coach/sponsor. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach/sponsor.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACH/SPONSORS

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes or participants

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach/sponsor and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the others position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW TO DISCUSS CONCERNS WITH A COACH/SPONSOR

1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach/sponsor

2. Please do not attempt to confront a coach/sponsor before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach/sponsor. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote resolution.
3. A concern may be expressed by email; however, there is no guarantee of confidentiality. Usually, personal communications produce the best result.

THE NEXT STEP

What Can a Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach/Sponsor Did Not Provide A Satisfactory Resolution

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Activities Director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

It is important to remember that the amount of playing time is at the discretion of the coach.

INJURIES

An unfortunate aspect of athletics is that injuries do happen and these injuries can sometimes be serious. The majority of students will suffer no injuries at all, a few will suffer minor injuries and very few will suffer serious injury. Strict adherence to the rules of the sport and the utilization of proper techniques as taught by the coaches can often prevent injuries. Marquette is very fortunate to have the service of a certified Athletic Trainer. All injuries must be reported to the trainer. It is very important to follow the trainer's instructions on the care and rehabilitation of injuries. The trainer should also be notified of pre-existing conditions that could influence treatment or rehabilitation. **If a trainer or coach require a doctor's written permission to participate following an injury, a parent's written permission will be insufficient.**

