

NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



PARENT – ATHLETE HANDBOOK MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL

May 2014

INTRODUCTION

In order for sports to serve a purpose in the educational system, students must obtain positive educational benefits from athletics such as responsibility, self-discipline, sportsmanship, teamwork, work ethic, integrity and personal sacrifice for the good of others.

This handbook describes the rules, policies, procedures and framework of the Nye County School District (NCSD) athletics program and is to be handed out in conjunction with the athletic registration packet. The content should be carefully reviewed by both the prospective student-athlete and his/her parent/guardian. Upon completion of review, the NCSD athletic registration packet should be reviewed, completed.

NCSD is a member of the Nevada Interscholastic Athletics Association (NIAA). The NIAA recognizes, and understands that parents or legal guardians take the primary role in instilling values for their students. It is the goal of the NIAA to work cooperatively with parents to provide guidelines and programs that assist student-athletes in making positive choices.

Participation in NIAA sanctioned sports is a privilege and responsibility which requires all participants to adhere to athletic training rules imposed by the school district and member or affiliate school the student attends and represents. Adherence to training rules ensures that all student-athletes are in top physical condition, minimizes potential for injury, and further ensures that all member and affiliate school athletic teams are appropriately represented by their student-athletes. Underage drinking (*NRS 202.020*) and drug use is against the law. It is against the law to sell tobacco to people under the age of 18 (*NRS 202.2493 and 202.24935*) and usage is against school policy. Substance abuse negatively impacts athletics and academic performance, and research indicates that early onset of alcohol use increases the occurrence of addiction in adulthood by four times. Alcohol and drug use interferes in learning processes, brain development and increases the chance of physical injury while participating in athletic competition.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Players are expected to:

- Treat opponents with respect, demonstrate self-control, and adhere to all school and team rules.
- Respect and accept all official's calls and decisions without gestures or arguments.
- Win with dignity, lose without excuses.
- Understand the good of the team always comes first.
- Show respect for your coaches, the opposition's coaches and players, and the officials.
- Understand that the NCSD Code of Conduct shall extend to cover all interscholastic athletic contests.
- Conduct yourself at all times in a manner that represents character and sportsmanship traits.

Parents are expected to:

- Be positive role models at athletic contest. Your son or daughter will be very aware of your behavior.
- Be supportive of the coach. The team is the coach's responsibility, not the parents.
- Not coach from the sidelines.
- Communicate with the coach and create a positive supportive working relationship.
- Remember the primary value of athletic participation is to provide our youth with an opportunity for self-development, physically, emotionally, and mentally.
- Respect the judgment of the officials and refrain from openly criticizing any call the official makes.
- Be aware that if a parent conference is desired with the coach, it is highly inappropriate to speak with the coach regarding this at the conclusion of an athletic event. Wait until the next day and call for an appointment with the coach.
- Understand and respect the different roles of parents, coaches and officials. Parents should parent, coaches should coach, and officials should officiate; each should be treated with respect for what they do.

HANDLING CONCERNS

While you may not agree with all decisions of a coach or official, how and when you express your concerns is crucial. It is important to allow the coach to instruct and guide their team. If you express negative opinions in front of your child he/she may carry your convictions with them to practice/contests and share those thoughts with teammates.

Please follow the athletic chain of command when expressing concerns:

The athlete should first approach their coach. If there is no resolution at this level, then the parents and athlete are asked to meet with personnel in the order listed below:

- Coach: Please do not approach before, during or immediately after practice or a contest. Call to schedule an appointment for discussion concerning your child at a convenient time for both of you.
- Athletic director: If your problem is not resolved after speaking with the coach, please contact the athletic director.
- Principal: If a problem still exists, please contact the school principal.

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Parents and athletes are expected to read, understand and initial for the following seven subject areas in the NCSD Athletic Registration Packet.

INITIALING #1 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU WILL COMPLY WITH INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS (#1 on Registration Form)

Every student must be covered by health insurance to participate in athletics. If you do not have health insurance coverage, information may be obtained at the school regarding the purchase of supplemental health insurance. Participation will not be allowed until sufficient insurance information is received.

INITIALING #2 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOOTBALL ONLY WARNING STATEMENT.

FOOTBALL ONLY WARNING (#2 on Registration Form)

Participation in competitive athletics may result in severe injury, including paralysis or death. Changes in rules, improved conditioning programs, better medical coverage and improvements in equipment have reduced these risks, BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ELIMINATE SUCH RISKS FOR ATHLETICS.

Players can reduce the chance of injury by obeying all safety rules in their sport, reporting all physical problems to their coaches, following a proper conditioning program, and inspecting their own equipment daily. DAMAGED EQUIPMENT MUST BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY.

ADDITIONAL WARNING!!!

DO NOT USE FOOTBALL HELMET TO BUTT, RAM OR SPEAR AN OPPOSING PLAYER. THIS IS IN VIOLATION OF THE FOOTBALL RULES AND SUCH USE CAN RESULT IN SEVERE HEAD OR NECK INJURIES, PARALYSIS, OR DEATH TO YOU AND POSSIBLE INJURY TO YOUR OPPONENT. NO HELMET CAN PREVENT ALL HEAD OR NECK INJURIES A PLAYER MIGHT RECEIVE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN FOOTBALL.

EVEN IF ALL OF THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, AND EVEN IF THE ATHLETE IS USING EXCELLENT PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, A SERIOUS ACCIDENT MAY STILL OCCUR.

INITIALING #3 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU AGREE TO COMPLY WITH HIGH SCHOOL RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS.

HIGH SCHOOL RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS (#3 on Registration Form)

To be eligible to participate in a NIAA sanctioned sport, a student must attend the school located in the attendance zone or boundary of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) physical residence.

A student whose parents are divorced, or legally separated must participate at the school zoned for the parent having primary physical custody. If custody is jointly shared between two parents, the student shall choose which residence will be primary for establishing athletic eligibility.

Legal guardianship must be court appointed to be recognized by NIAA. Temporary guardianship, notarized guardianship and parent appointed guardianship are not accepted for athletic eligibility.

The burden of proof of residency rests with the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) by providing reliable documentation to the school.

INITIALING #4 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU AGREE WITH THE OFF SEASON SPORT CONDITIONING PERMIT.

NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT OFF-SEASON SPORT CONDITIONING PERMIT

(#4 on Registration Form)

AGREEMENT TO OBEY INSTRUCTIONS, RELEASE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND AGREEMENT TO HOLD HARMLESS IN ATHLETICS

STUDENT:

I am aware participating in any sport can be a dangerous activity involving many risks of injury. I understand the dangers and risks of playing or practicing in an off-season sport conditioning program include, but are not limited to death, serious neck and spinal injuries which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, serious injury to virtually all internal organs, serious injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons, and other aspects of the muscular skeletal system, and serious injury or impairment to other aspects of my body, general health, and well-being. I understand these dangers and risks may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of my future abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational activities, and generally enjoy life.

Due to the dangers of participating in a sporting activity, I recognize the importance of following coaches' instructions regarding playing techniques, training and other team rules, etc., and agree to obey such instruction.

In consideration of the Nye County School District permitting me to participate in an off-season sport/conditioning program and to engage in all activities related to said program, I hereby assume all risk associated with participation and agree to indemnify, defend, and hold the Nye County School District, its Trustees, employees, agents, representatives, coaches, and volunteers harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, debts, claims or demand of any kind and nature whatsoever which may arise by, or in connection with, my participation in an off-season sport/conditioning program.

The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk for me, my heirs, estate, executor, administrator, assignees, and for members of my family.

PARENT/GUARDIAN:

I affirm I am the parent or legal guardian of the previously mentioned student. I have read the student warning and release and understand its terms. I understand all sports can involve risk of injury including but not limited to those risks outlined in the STUDENT section.

In consideration of the Nye County School District permitting my child/ward to participate in an off-season sport/conditioning program and to engage in all activities related to said program, I hereby assume all risk associated with participation and agree to indemnify, defend, and hold the Nye County School District, its Trustees, employees, agents, representatives, coaches, and volunteers harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, debts, claims or demand of any kind and nature whatsoever which may arise by or in connection with my child/ward's participation in an off-season sport/conditioning program.

I certify my child/ward has no ailment or organic defect that would make participation in a sport activity dangerous to his/her health. I also certify there is a current physical on file with the school clearing my child/ward to participate in an off-season sport/conditioning program.

The terms hereof shall serve as a release for me, my heirs, estate, executor, administrator, assignees, and for all members of my family.

INITIALING #5 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING POLICIES.

NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENTAL APPROVAL (#5 on Registration Form)

NIAA Regulations apply to High School Only

STUDENT RIGHTS

Students participating in athletic programs are governed by the rights, protection, and responsibilities as prescribed by the NIAA handbook (high school only), Nye County School District policies and regulations, and the rules and regulations of respective schools.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants are required to conform to the rules and regulations of their school, the Nye County School District, and the NIAA (high school only). Student-athletes should conduct themselves in a safe and sportsmanlike manner. Violators are subject to probation, suspension or expulsion.

HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS, A STUDENT MUST

- a. Be a student of the 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade in a NCS D sanctioned school.
- b. Be under 19 years of age on September 1 of the year in which he/she participates.
- c. Have been enrolled in a high school, in the semester of participation no later than (20) days after the beginning of the semester.
- d. Reside with parents, the parent with legal custody or court appointed guardian.
- e. Not have transferred from one high school district to another without a corresponding change in residence on the part of his/her parents or court appointed guardian.
- f. Be entitled to four (4) consecutive years of participation after entering ninth grade (eight (8) consecutive semesters).
- g. Not participate in any all-star game.
- h. Not participate in more than one sport during any sport season.
- i. Not accept any award of material value for athletic participation other than those given by the school or the association or approved by the Board of Control.
- j. Be in good standing and not under current suspension or expulsion from any school in the Nye County School District or any other school district.
- k. Not conduct themselves in a manner that reflects discredit on the school which includes, but is not limited to, the use of tobacco (smoking and chewing), drinking alcoholic beverages, stealing, vandalism, the use of drugs other than those prescribed by a qualified physician, violation of any of the provisions of the Nye County School District Regulations, prohibited conduct or violation of any team attendance, training, and curfew rules. Students in violation of these will be subject to suspension and due process as outlined in Item "B" of the Nye County School District Violation of Training Rules – Mandatory Penalties.
- l. It is mandatory for all high school athletes to have an annual (each school year) physical examination as per NCS D policy 7474, and under the guidelines of NAC 386.819.

HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A student must be currently enrolled in at least four (4) classes, earning a minimum of two (2) units of credit.
- A student must have passed two (2) units of credit the previous semester.
- A student must maintain a C average with no F's and satisfactory citizenship as per NCS D Policy 7480.
- Students who fail to meet these requirements will be declared ineligible for a minimum of one week. Ineligible weeks run Monday to Monday.

HIGH SCHOOL MAINTENANCE OF SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY/GRADE CHECKS

1. The beginning of the year (fall season) eligibility is determined from the previous (spring) semester's grades excluding incoming freshmen. A student must maintain a 2.0 GPA during the prior semester, based on a 4.0 grading system with no failing grades. A student who fails to meet the minimum GPA requirement shall be

ineligible until the completion of the nine week grading period at which time their grades will be checked. A student who receives a failing grade at the semester, but maintains the 2.00 GPA will be ineligible for the first three weeks. If a student remains below a 2.0 GPA at the nine-week check, they will remain ineligible for the remainder of the semester. The same requirements and consequences apply at the completion of semester one for the winter and Spring seasons.

2. Grades must be assessed at least every three weeks but may be checked more frequently at each individual school's discretion. If previously eligible at the grade check, the student will be placed on a one week warning list. If the student is failing ANY class the next week they will become ineligible.
3. Grades are checked on Monday for the previous week. Ineligibility is in effect Monday through Monday.
4. If an eligibility check falls on the last day before any vacation, the ineligibility will go into effect on the next school day. If a student is declared ineligible the week prior to vacation, he/she will remain ineligible throughout the vacation period or until the next check is completed. This rule may be suspended by the athletic director or principal/designee if the vacation time caused ineligibility to exceed one week.
5. A student that drops a failing class at any time during the semester is ineligible the following Monday through Monday.
6. When nine week grade reports coincide with eligibility checks, the report card grades will be used to determine eligibility.
7. A student that has been ineligible for three (3) consecutive weeks will be subject to review by the athletic director/principal and/or coaches and may be declared ineligible for the remainder of the season.
8. If a situation arises that involves a mistake or clerical error, a student will regain eligibility immediately.
9. Questions regarding mistakes or clerical errors will be referred first to the athletic director, and then to the principal if not resolved.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICPATE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS, A STUDENT MUST

1. Be a student of the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade in a NCSD middle school (*Special circumstances may be approved by the superintendent/designee*).
2. Be covered by health insurance.
3. Have an annual (each school year) physical examination as per NCSD Policy #747, and under the guidelines of NAC 386.819 (mandatory for all middle school athletes).
4. Be in good standing and not under current suspension or expulsion from any school in the Nye County School District or any other school district.
5. Not conduct themselves in a manner that reflects discredit on the school which includes, but is not limited to, the use of tobacco (smoking and chewing), drinking alcoholic beverages, stealing, vandalism, the use of drugs other than those prescribed by a qualified physician, violation of any of the provisions of the Nye County School District Regulations, prohibited conduct or violation of any team attendance, training, and curfew rules. Students in violation of these will be subject to suspension and due process as outlined in Item "B" of the Nye County School District Violation of Training Rules – Mandatory Penalties.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. As per NCSD Policy #7480, a student must maintain a "C" average with no "F's" in any classes, and satisfactory citizenship with no "U's" in any classes.
2. Students who fail to meet these requirements will be declared ineligible for a minimum of one week (Monday through Monday).

MIDDLE SCHOOL MAINTENANCE OF SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY/GRADE CHECKS

1. The GPA/grades will be assessed every three (3) weeks to determine eligibility for extra-curricular activities. Schools have the option to check more often but must notify parents in writing.
2. Grades are checked on Monday for the previous week. Ineligibility is in effect Monday through Monday.
3. If an eligibility check falls on the last day before any vacation, the ineligibility will go into effect on the next school day. If a student is declared ineligible the week prior to vacation, he/she will remain ineligible throughout the vacation period or until the next check is completed. This rule may be suspended by the athletic director or principal if the vacation time caused ineligibility to exceed one week.
4. A student that drops a failing class at any time during the semester is ineligible the following Monday through Monday.
5. When nine week grade reports coincide with eligibility checks, the report card grades will be used to determine eligibility.

6. A student that has been ineligible for three (3) consecutive weeks will be subject to review by the athletic director/principal and/or coaches and may be declared ineligible for the remainder of the season.
7. If a situation arises that involves a mistake or clerical error, a student will regain eligibility immediately. Questions regarding mistakes or clerical errors will be referred first to the athletic director and then to the principal if not resolved.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION/SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY

- Ineligible students may practice.
- Incomplete grades will not be considered when determining eligibility until the permanent grade is received.
- High School Only: Credits and/or passing grades earned during the summer through summer school and /or correspondence courses will be considered to determine fall eligibility.

ACTIVITIES/ EVENTS –ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OR DRUGS ON PREMISES

If an athlete in attendance at an event/activity has tobacco, alcohol or drugs, whether the athlete chooses to participate or not, consequences may be imposed. Should the athlete not be aware of these substances and then becomes aware, he/she needs to remove themselves immediately! Should he/she decide to stay, whether they participate or not, consequences may be put into force (effect) after the school has completed an investigation.

ATTENDANCE/ TARDIES

Any absence (excluding pre-arranged/approved, or doctor excused) during a school day will make an athlete ineligible to participate in that day's practice or contest. For athletic contests or trips on Saturdays, or leaving before school starts, the athlete must be present on the previous school day unless absence is pre-arranged/approved, or doctor excused. Excessive tardiness may result in ineligibility to participate in contests.

DRESS CODE

Athletes need to remember they are ambassadors and represent not only themselves, but also the coaching staff and their school. Clothing denoting gang affiliation by color or insignia, sexually provocative clothing, clothing promoting the use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, or clothing that provides minimum coverage are considered to be disruptive and will not be allowed. NCS D Policy #7331 will be followed. Additional dress code rules will be regulated and enforced by the individual schools.

LOCKERS

Athletic lockers are not security lockers and they may be searched or inspected at any time there is reasonable cause to do so. Although the school will investigate reports of stolen property, it cannot be held responsible for items lost, damaged, or stolen from lockers. Athletes are financially responsible for lost locks, and damage or defacement of the locker. Students are cautioned not to keep money or other valuables in their lockers.

FACILITY USAGE

No student-athlete is allowed to use any facility (gym, weight room, practice fields, batting cages, etc.) without a coach or staff member being present.

PARKING

High School students who drive or park in an unsafe manner, or park in unauthorized areas (such as staff parking areas) may lose their parking privileges. This includes after school practices and contests. Student-athletes must park in student parking only.

PARTICIPATION ON AN ATHLETIC TEAM

It is important to understand that participation on an athletic team in Nye County is a privilege and not a right. Being on and maintaining one's membership on the team means accepting all responsibilities of an athlete. Equal or guaranteed playing time does not exist. A coach will use players best suited to the conditions or demands of the contest at that time.

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Inappropriate displays of affection while participating in athletic activities may result in disciplinary action through the handling of concerns process following the chain of command.

PRACTICE SESSIONS AND GAMES

Practice sessions are normally closed to spectators. Interruptions interfere with an athletes' and coaches' concentration and focus, and will not be allowed any more than a disruption would be tolerated in an academic setting. Spectators who

wish to attend practice should make arrangements in advance with the coach. Disruptive spectators will be asked to leave.

REMOVING A STUDENT FROM A TEAM

After the athletic squad has been selected, a head coach, in conjunction with the athletic director and or principal, may remove a student from a team. It is expected that mature judgment and ample time and consideration will be given, as well as parent contact, before removal of a student from an athletic team. Appropriate documentation will be on file with the school if a student is removed from a team. An athlete may be removed as a result of no participation or communication. Parents will be notified in writing if a student is removed from any team.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN ATHLETE

Coaches expect an athlete to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. To understand the team's goals, welfare, and success must come before the individual.
2. To consistently attend practice session. This also includes weekend and holiday periods when necessary.
3. To maintain excellent physical condition throughout the season.
4. To be receptive to coaching and follow the coach's instruction as to diet, rest and sleep.
5. To report all injuries to either the coach or athletic trainer.
6. To avoid the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
7. If an athlete in attendance at an event/activity has tobacco, alcohol or drugs, whether the athlete chooses to participate or not, consequences may be imposed. Should the athlete not be aware of these substances and then becomes aware, he/she needs to remove themselves immediately! Should he/she decide to stay, whether they participate or not, consequences may be put into force (effect) after the school has completed an investigation.
8. To care for equipment/uniforms and return all equipment/uniforms at the end of the season.
9. To have all participation documents filed with the athletic director on time.
10. To agree, as a member of a team, to follow the team rules. Athletes need to remember they are ambassadors and represent not only themselves, but also the coaching staff and the school. They need to respect the rules of the contest and those who administer them.
11. To maintain a positive attitude at all times, refrain from any harassment, sexual harassment, bullying or cyber bullying.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A COACH

In Nye County School District a coach has the following responsibilities:

1. The supervision of student-athletes during practice, travel, and contests.
2. The selection of a squad.
3. The determination of the style of play, including offensive and defensive philosophy.
4. The teaching and instruction at practice sessions.
5. The determination of who starts and how long an athlete plays in a contest.
6. The decision of who plays in which positions.
7. The establishment and enforcement of team rules.
8. To maintain a positive attitude at all times.
9. To keep practice and game attendance records.
10. To keep injury reports.
11. To keep appropriate individual and team stats.
12. To follow all NCSD/NIAA policies and regulations.

TEN-DAY PRACTICE RULE

1. Practice limitations on teams and participants (NAC 386.813 – .815):
2. Participants in any interscholastic sport must have at least ten (10) days practice under the direct supervision of the coaching staff of that sport before participating in any sport, event, contest or match, except in golf.
3. Each team must have at least ten (10) separate days of organized practice in all sanctioned activities, except golf, under direct supervision of the coaching staff of that sport before participating in inter-school contests.
4. Participants on teams that qualified for playoffs which immediately proceed the present sport season during any given school year are eligible to participate after completing five (5) days of practice in the specific sport.
5. Only one practice may be counted for any one day.
6. During the season if a student misses ten or more consecutive practices, they may not participate until they make up five practices.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Students are required to ride the activity bus to and from the activity. Alternate travel from the activity must be requested and approved in writing 24 hours prior to leaving for the activity. The request must come from the parent or legal guardian, and be approved by an Administrator. Upon approval, the student may be released after the activity to a parent or legal guardian only with a written note (please allow time for coach/sponsor to meet with the player following the contest). Any other special circumstance may be approved by the principal in writing.
2. Any changes in the travel roster must be presented to the driver at the time of change.
3. Bus rules and regulations must be observed when traveling to/from athletic events.
4. Student must be picked up in a timely manner when returning home from athletic events. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal from the team. The school will address this issue in detail with parents and athletes at the pre-season meeting.

INITIALING #6 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU UNDERSTAND, AND WILL COMPLY WITH, THE NCS D DISTRICT/NIAA VIOLATION OF TRAINING RULES MANDATORY PENALTIES.

NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT/NIAA VIOLATION OF TRAINING RULES MANDATORY PENALTIES (*#6 on Registration Form*)

A. Smoking/Chewing/Alcohol/Controlled Substance/Narcotics Violations occurring on or off campus.

Any student guilty of using or being in possession of tobacco products, alcohol, controlled substances and/or narcotics AT ANY TIME, whether on campus during regular school hours, after school hours, at any academic intramural, or interscholastic activity, or at any other location or time, will be subject to penalties as outlined in the NIAA ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG POSSESSION, USE, ABUSE and PENALTIES POLICY. This policy is included with this handbook and a mandatory acknowledgement form to be signed by the student and a parent or legal guardian. This acknowledgement must be received by the athletic office before the student will be allowed to participate.

B. Violations of School Rules and Policies

All students will follow school rules and policies as outlined in the Nye County School District Behavior Handbook. It should be understood coaches and sponsors of different programs may have other guidelines which may not be consistent from one program to another. If these differences are in fact equitable to that activity and meet the demands of that activity, the differences are permitted. Any training rule violation that occurs while under the direct supervision of school personnel may result in suspension from school and dismissal from all extra-curricular programs for the remainder of the school year. Students who bring discredit as outlined in item "K" of the Parental Approval Form may be suspended from the activity.

C. Staff Authority

Students must courteously and respectfully comply with the requests of any teacher, substitute teacher, staff member, security personnel, bus driver or administrator at all times while on any part of the school grounds, in a school vehicle, at any school sponsored activity or on any school sponsored trips. Failure to comply shall be considered insubordination and subject to immediate disciplinary action.

D. Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation

As per NRS 200.605 hazing is a form of harassment that may include but is not limited to whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to elements, forced consumption of food, liquor or drugs, indecent assault and unlawful restraint. Violations will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action as outlined in the matrix of the Nye County School District Student/Parent Handbook.

E. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of any kind is not permitted and we will not permit or ignore sexual harassment. We are committed to providing a learning environment that is free of sexual harassment in any form. Violations will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action and possible exclusion from school.

INITIALING #7 ON THE ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORM INDICATES YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND WILL COMPLY WITH, THE NIAA CONCUSSION PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT POLICY AT ALL TIMES AND THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE NCSD DISTRICT CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES POLICY AND REGULATION 7437, AND HAVE SIGNED THE STUDENT/PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

NCSD CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURIES POLICY AND REGULATION 7437
NRS 386.435, 392.452 & 455A.200; NIAA guidelines; NFHS guidelines; NAC 386.615 & 386.695
(#7 on Registration Form, signature sheet required)

The Nye County School District recognizes that concussions and other head injuries may be sustained by children and adolescents who participate in sports and other physical recreation activities. The Board of Trustees is concerned that further significant injury may occur if a concussion or other head injury is not properly evaluated and managed. Therefore, all district competitive sports and recreation activities will be monitored by district administration in order that such injuries may be identified and appropriate action taken, if necessary. All school employees and coaches will be trained in proper protection, prevention and treatment of head injuries.

A concussion is a brain injury that results from a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body which causes the brain to move rapidly in the skull and which disrupts normal brain function. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that as many as 3.8 million* concussions related to participation in sports and other recreational activities occur each year in the United States. What may appear to be only a mild jolt or blow to the head or body can result in a concussion. There is no such thing as a minor brain injury. Therefore, these procedures **MUST** be followed for any suspected concussion or head injury.

Prevention and Preparation

The district will distribute a head injury information sheet to all parents or legal guardians of student-athletes participating in competitive sports. The parent or legal guardian and student-athlete must return a signed acknowledgement indicating that they have reviewed and understand the information provided before the student-athlete may participate in any sports activity. District personnel and coaching staff will regularly remind student-athletes to immediately inform coaching staff and/or other district personnel if a blow to the head or to the area near the head has been sustained by the student-athlete or a teammate, or if a concussion or other head injury is suspected.

Recognition and Management

If a student-athlete exhibits any signs, symptoms or behaviors that are suspicious or that may indicate he/she may have sustained a concussion or other head injury, the student-athlete must be immediately removed from all physical activity, including sports and recreation. Student-athletes who continue to participate in competitive sports while suffering from a concussion or suffering from the symptoms of a head injury are at greater risk of catastrophic brain injury or even death.

Parents or legal guardians and coaches are not expected to be able to diagnose a concussion or other significant injury; that is the role of appropriate health care professionals. A student-athlete who participates in interscholastic athletics or other district-sponsored physical recreational activities, and who sustains or is suspected of having sustained a concussion or other head injury, shall be immediately removed from further practice or competition.

Return to Play or Activity

A student-athlete who sustains, or is suspected of sustaining, a concussion or other head injury will be immediately removed from participation in the sport/activity for 24 hours and will be allowed to return only after the parent/guardian provides a written medical release signed by a health care provider which indicates the date on which the student-athlete may return to the competitive sport/activity. (A provider of health care means a physician licensed under NRS Chapter 630 or 633, a physical therapist licensed under NRS Chapter 640 or an athletic trainer licensed under NRS Chapter 640B.

If symptoms of a concussion re-occur, or if concussion signs and/or behaviors are observed at any time upon resumption of the activity, the student-athlete must immediately discontinue all activity and be re-evaluated by a health care provider.

What to do in an Emergency Situation

Although rare, there are some situations where district personnel must call 911. The following circumstances constitute medical emergencies and require immediate action:

1. Any time a student-athlete or participant sustains a loss of consciousness of any duration. While loss of consciousness does not always occur and is not required for a concussion to be suspected or diagnosed, it may indicate more serious brain injury.
2. A student-athlete or participant exhibits any of the following symptoms or conditions: decreased level or loss of consciousness; appearing or looking very drowsy or cannot be awakened; difficulty in getting his/her attention; disorientation; irregular, difficult or labored breathing; onset of severe or worsening headache; persistent vomiting; or seizure or similar condition.

NOTE: NIAA regulations require that a student-athlete sent to a medical facility in an ambulance must be accompanied by a coach or other responsible adult.

*Based on current available data, July 2012.



NIAA CONCUSSION PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT POLICY

Participation in NIAA sanctioned sports is a privilege and responsibility which requires all participants to adhere to athletic training rules imposed by the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association ("NIAA"), as well as the school district and member, affiliate or provisional school the student attends and represents. Adherence to training rules ensures that all student-athletes are in top physical condition, minimizes potential for significant injury, and further ensures that all member and affiliate school athletic teams are protected and properly represented by their student-athletes.

A concussion is a brain injury that results from a bump, blow or jolt to the head or body which causes the brain to move rapidly in the skull and which disrupts normal brain function. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services estimates that as many as 3.8 million concussions occur each year in the United States which are related to participation in sports and other recreational activities. Student-athletes who continue to participate in an athletic activity while suffering from a concussion or suffering from the symptoms of an injury to the head are at a greater risk for catastrophic injury to the brain or even death. Ensuring that a student-athlete who sustains or is suspected of sustaining a concussion or other injury to the head receives the appropriate medical care before returning to an athletic activity will significantly reduce the child's risk of sustaining greater injury in the future.

The Nevada Legislature passed AB455, now codified at NRS 386.435, during the 2011 Legislative session which mandates the NIAA develop a policy addressing concussion prevention, treatment and management which applies to all sports and activities sanctioned by the NIAA.

THEREFORE, the NIAA hereby adopts the following policy for purposes of prevention, treatment and management of injuries to the head which may occur during a pupil's participation in interscholastic activities and events, including, without limitation, a concussion of the brain. This policy constitutes the minimum standard that all member schools shall follow. School districts and member schools may choose to adopt and follow more stringent programs and guidelines pertaining to the prevention, treatment and management of concussions and those programs shall take precedence over this policy.

1. Each school year before a student-athlete is allowed to participate in an interscholastic activity or event, the student-athlete and his or her parent or legal guardian must be provided with a copy of this policy. Participation in interscholastic activities or events shall be construed in accordance with the definition of "participation" as set forth in NAC 386.615 and 386.695.
2. The student-athlete and his or her parent or legal guardian must sign the statement attached to this policy acknowledging that they have read and understand the terms and conditions of the policy, and agree to be bound by the policy.
3. If a student-athlete sustains, or is suspected of sustaining, an injury to the head while participating in any NIAA activity or event, the pupil must:
 - a. Be immediately removed from the activity or event; and
 - b. May only return to the activity or event if the parent or legal guardian of the student-athlete first provides the athletic administrator of the member school a signed statement from a provider of health care indicating that the student-athlete is medically cleared for participation in the activity or event. The statement must include the date on which the pupil may return to the activity or event.
 - c. "Provider of health care," as used in (b), above, means a physician licensed under Chapter 630 or 633 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), a physical therapist licensed under Chapter 640 of NRS or an athletic trainer licensed under Chapter 640B of NRS.

**NEVADA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
REGULATION #NAC 386-697**

Amateur Standing

1. A pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport must be an amateur in each sanctioned sport in which he participates. A pupil is not an amateur in a sanctioned sport if he:
 - a. Participated in a sanctioned sport for money or any other thing of value, other than all allowable expenses for travel, meals or lodging.
 - b. Received any award, equipment or prize that has a retail value of more than \$200, including, without limitation, any award or prize to attend a camp for instruction or an all-star game.
 - c. Executes a contract to play as a professional athlete in a sanctioned sport.
2. For the purposes of this section, a pupil specified in subsection 1 who accepts a fee for providing instruction for or supervising or officiating an organized program of sports or recreation for a minor does not, by accepting the fee, forfeit his status as an amateur in a sanctioned sport.
3. If a pupil specified in subsection 1 forfeits his status as an amateur in a sanctioned sport pursuant to this section, the pupil may, upon the expiration of one (1) year after the forfeiture, apply to the Association to reinstate his eligibility to participate in the sanctioned sport.
4. A pupil who participates in a sanctioned sport during any period other than the season for that sanctioned sport shall comply with the requirements, if any, prescribed by the agency governing that sanctioned sport for participating in the sanctioned sport as an amateur.
5. As used in this section, “amateur” means a person who engages in an athletic competition solely for the physical, mental or social enjoyment obtained from engaging in that athletic competition.

NIAA ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUG POSSESSION, USE, ABUSE and PENALTIES POLICY

(As revised and approved by NIAA Board of Control June 2011)

Participation in NIAA sanctioned sports (high school) is a privilege and responsibility which requires all participants to adhere to athletic training rules imposed by the school district and member or affiliate school the student attends and represents. Adherence to training rules ensures that all student-athletes are in top physical condition, minimizes potential for injury, and further ensures that all member and affiliate school athletic teams are appropriately represented by their student-athletes. Therefore, the possession or use of any controlled substance, designer or synthetic drug or naturally occurring drug, alcohol or any tobacco products, e-cigarettes or other product that delivers nicotine or mimics the reaction of nicotine without a prescription from a physician by a student-athlete, whether it occurs on or off of school property, is prohibited and shall result in the penalties set forth herein.

This regulation shall begin once our son/daughter begins participation as a student-athlete in high school athletics. This policy remains in effect for every calendar school year during the course of his/her high school career and when he/she is directly involved in a school activity occurring at any time (summer leagues / camps, etc.). This policy remains in effect regardless of whether our son/daughter is currently participating on a high school athletic team.

Definitions: The following terms or phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them for purposes of interpreting this Policy.

Competitive Week – means a seven (7) day period of time beginning with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs in which a student-athlete is participating as a member of an athletic team for a member or affiliate school, and in which that team is officially competing in NIAA sanctioned competition.

Controlled Substance – includes any mind altering substance or beverage set forth in Schedule I-V of the list of Controlled Substances as identified by the office of the Drug Enforcement Administration or as set forth in 21 U.S.C. §812.

Period of Suspension – means a student-athlete is prohibited from appearing in any NIAA sanctioned sport or event as a member of an athletic team or in individual competition. A suspension from athletic competition begins with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. A student-athlete who is suspended under this regulation who does not serve the entire period of suspension during the sport season in which suspension occurs shall serve any remaining period of suspension during the next sport season in which the student-athlete appears on a NIAA roster. If a violation of this regulation occurs during a time when a student-athlete does not appear on a NIAA roster, the suspension will only be satisfied the next sport season on a team in which the student-athlete has previously appeared on a NIAA roster as a member in good standing. Attendance in a summer school class shall not apply toward satisfying any period of suspension.

Possession – means a student-athlete who is in actual physical control of alcohol, tobacco or a controlled substance, designer or synthetic drug or naturally occurring drug, alcohol or any tobacco products, e-cigarettes or other product that delivers nicotine or mimics the reaction of nicotine without a prescription from a physician.

Possession or Use of Tobacco/Alcohol/Controlled Substance/Narcotics. Any student-athlete determined to be in possession of, or to have used tobacco, including smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, an alcoholic beverage (as defined by NRS 202.020 and any relevant local ordinances), controlled substance and/or narcotic designer or synthetic drug or naturally occurring drug, alcohol or any tobacco products, e-cigarettes or other product that delivers nicotine or mimics the reaction of nicotine without a prescription from a physician (unless prescribed by the student-athlete's physician for medical purposes), is in violation of this policy. If after an investigation by the school it is determined that the student-athlete is in violation of this regulation the student-athlete shall immediately be declared ineligible to compete in any NIAA competition beginning with the first scheduled competition after a violation occurs. Additionally, the student-athlete shall be subject to the following discipline:

- a. **First Violation:** a six (6) competitive week suspension from participation in interscholastic competition from a sport in which the student's name has appeared on any NIAA roster, beginning with the first scheduled competition after the suspension occurs. Four (4) competitive weeks of the suspension of eligibility may be waived if the student successfully completes all components of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in subparagraphs (d) (1) (A) and (d) (1) (B)

below. The student may practice with the team during the period of suspension if approved by the coach and principal.

- b. **Second Violation:** The student shall be suspended from interscholastic competition from a sport in which the student's name has appeared on any NIAA roster for a minimum of ninety (90) school days which shall include a minimum of six (6) competitive weeks of competition. The student shall not be allowed to practice with the team, or participate in any out of season activities and must complete the requirements set forth in subparagraphs A and B below, in order to be considered for reinstatement of future athletic eligibility, which shall be determined following the ninety (90) school day suspension of athletic eligibility by a group composed of one of the student's parents/legal guardians, the school principal, athletic director, coach and a substance abuse program coordinator.
 - i. A substance abuse evaluation assessment conducted by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor at the expense of the parent or legal guardian of the student must be completed within ten (10) school days following the suspension and all assessment recommendations must be satisfactorily met before athletic eligibility may be reinstated.
 - ii. The student must successfully participate in all sessions of the appropriate substance abuse intervention program set forth in subparagraphs (d) (1) (a) and (d) (1) (B) below, and successfully complete a minimum of ten (10) tobacco or alcohol/drug related support sessions.
- c. **Third Violation:** The student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's high school career.

Appeal: A student that serves their third violation and still has more than one year of remaining eligibility can appeal through the NIAA Board of Control. Both the students and his/her parents must attend this meeting of the Board to present their appeal. Revised 2011

Cumulative Effect of Suspensions: Multiple suspensions of a student-athlete's athletic eligibility based on violations of this Regulation shall be considered as cumulative over the length of each student-athlete's high school career, 9th through 12th grade.

Substance Abuse Intervention Program: Any student who has been suspended from athletic eligibility for violation of the provisions of this Regulation and whose future athletic eligibility is contingent on successful completion of a Substance Abuse Intervention Program, or whose suspension of athletic eligibility may be reduced through successful participation in a Substance Abuse Intervention Program, shall complete the Substance Abuse Intervention Program developed by the NIAA in conjunction with the State of Nevada, Department of Human Resources Division of Child and Family Services Program available through the Juvenile Justice Programs Office: (775) 684-7294.

Successful completion of the Substance Abuse Intervention Program shall require, at a minimum:

- A. The completion of a video program specific to the nature of the student-athlete's offense, by the student-athlete, and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), as demonstrated by the successful completion of an assignment on the content of the video by the student-athlete and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
- B. The completion of a minimum of an eight (8) hour assignment selected from a list of ten (10) possible assignments by school personnel. Successful completion shall be determined through a meeting between the student-athlete, his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the head coach of the sport in which the student-athlete was participating at the time of offense, and the school counselor or dean of students.

All investigations and penalty enforcements will be conducted by the school and / or district with support through the NIAA office (high school only).