

# Gladstone Area High School Athletic Rules and Regulations

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## Academic Eligibility

### **Weekly Eligibility**

Eligibility for current classes will be determined by weekly progress reports. Teachers will turn in eligibility reports to the athletic office on Tuesday. Once the athletic office receives the report, eligibility is determined until the next Wednesday.

The following highlights the process that will be undertaken to determine weekly academic eligibility at Gladstone High School:

At the beginning of each semester, students will be afforded a three week period to establish and maintain satisfactory academic performance in all of their classes.

Beginning with week four, a formal written warning will be issued for a student who is failing one or more classes. During this time, the student will continue to practice and compete as normal. However, the student is expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or a tutor. Parents will receive notification of the first formal warning via the Athletic Office.

A student receiving consecutive weekly failures in two or more classes is ineligible for competition. A student failing three classes in any week after receiving a formal warning is ineligible. A student who is failing one class after receiving the 3<sup>rd</sup> warning for the same class is ineligible. Ineligible athletes are expected to practice as normal. Travel to away games while ineligible will be at the discretion of the individual coach. Ineligible athletes are required to seek tutoring until able to earn satisfactory grades.

At the conclusion of each sport/season, students are absolved of all weekly eligibility issues. Weekly eligibility does not carry over from sport/season to sport/season.

### **Semester Eligibility**

Students are required to maintain semester eligibility. Students failing no more than one class at the end of the semester are eligible to participate in the subsequent semester. A student failing two classes at semester is ineligible for the subsequent nine-week marking period and must pass five classes in order to regain eligibility for the remaining marking period. A student failing more than two semester classes is ineligible for the subsequent semester.

## **Special Education**

Students qualifying for special education services will follow these same guidelines unless otherwise specifically addressed in a particular student's Individualized Educational Plan.

## **Behavior**

I. It is a violation for a student-athlete to:

- A. Possess / use tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs.
- B. Be in attendance at a gathering where alcohol or drugs are being illegally used or possessed.
- C. Commit a felony or misdemeanor act as defined by Federal, State, or Municipal law.
- D. Actions unbecoming of a student/athlete.

If, after a complete investigation by the Athletic Director or Principal, an individual is found to have committed a violation, the minimum penalty shall be:

\* First Offense: Loss of 25 % of the season of competition in which the student is competing or would be competing in a succeeding season as well as mandatory substance abuse / alcohol / anger management counseling (as appropriate), at the expense of the parent or guardian if the individual wishes to continue to participate in athletics.

\* Second offense: Loss of 50 % of the season of competition in which the student is competing or would be competing in a succeeding season as well as mandatory substance abuse / alcohol / anger management counseling (as appropriate), at the expense of the parent or guardian if the individual wishes to continue to participate in athletics.

\* Third offense: Loss of all remaining calendar year eligibility until the first official date of practice of the sport in season, at the time of the violation in the next school year. Enrollment in and completion of mandatory substance abuse / alcohol / anger management counseling (as appropriate), at the expense of the parent or guardian if the individual wishes to continue to participate in athletics.

\* Fourth offense: Loss of all remaining high school eligibility.

If a student-athlete is successful in completing two (2) full years of participation with no rule violations, one (1) existing offense will be removed from the athlete's record.

## **II. Practice and School Attendance**

- A. Team members not in school for the last three (3) hours of the school day will not be allowed to be at practice or participate in an

event that night unless excused by the high school principal or his designee.

- B. Tardiness and absenteeism will be handled by the assistant principal and may result in loss of practice time or loss of playing time.
- C. Teams arriving back at the school after midnight on the evening preceding a school day will be required to be in school at the start of second period.
- D. When an athletic team is excused from classes for an athletic contest, it is the responsibility of the team members to get all assignments for all classes from their teachers or classmates and see that these are completed and turned in on time. Athletes are expected to be in school on time the morning after contests and prepared to take any test that have been scheduled.

### **III. Violation of Team Rules**

Individual teams may establish team rules that are stronger than the Athletic rules. The rules must be reviewed with the participants and a copy must be on file in the athletic office.

### **IV. Appeals**

- A. All individuals have the right to appeal any disciplinary decision. To do so the athletic director or high school principal should be contacted in writing within three (3) days after notice of the penalty.
- B. Appeal steps will be as follows:
  - 1. High school principal. - If high school principal was involved in the investigation of the infraction, then the appeal step will go directly to the Superintendent of schools.
  - 2. Superintendent of schools.

### **V. Transportation**

- A. The school district will provide transportation to and from scheduled athletic contests. Athletes are expected to ride to and from contests with the team. Exceptions may occasionally be made for the athlete to ride to or from contests with their parents only, after prior written notification from the parent, is received by the coach.
- B. Penalties:
  - 1. First offense: loss of next contest in season or in succeeding season.
  - 2. Second offense: loss of athletic participation for the remainder of the school year.

3. Subsequent offenses will be handled on an individualized basis.

## **VI. Requirements for Athletic Participation, Including Tryouts**

- A. Have on file in the athletic office, a record of having passed an athletic screening examination. If a physician requires medical clearance, a letter indicating the student may participate in sports must also be on file in the athletic office.
- B. The student and their parent (s) must have attended an athletic rules and regulations meeting
- C. Have on file in the athletic office the attached signed statement by parent (s) and students agreeing to follow athletic rules and regulations, and the Parent Statement Form.

## **Parent & Coach Communication**

### ***Parent/Coach Relationship***

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to our children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

### ***Communication you should expect from your son/daughter's coach***

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your student athlete, as well as all the players on the team
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements; i.e., fees, special equipment, off season conditioning
5. Procedure should your child be injured during participation
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

### ***Communication coaches expect from parents***

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

As your children become involved in the programs at Gladstone High School, 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 athlete wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

### ***Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches***

1. The treatment of your student athlete, mentally and physically

2. Ways to help your student athlete improve performance
3. Concerns about your student athlete's behavior

Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your student athlete's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

***Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches***

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

Should a situation arise, we encourage you to request a conference between the coach and the parent. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. If a conference is necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

1. Call to set up an appointment with coach
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, 428-9200 and he will set up a meeting for you.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. This can be an emotional time for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote a satisfactory resolution.

***The Next Step***

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

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

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided here makes both you and your student athlete's experience with the Gladstone High School Athletic program more enjoyable and successful.

## Statement of Agreement

I have read and understand the Gladstone Area High School Athletic Rules and Regulations and agree to abide by them.

I agree to notify the coach of any equipment issued to me (the participant) that is damaged. I understand that I am responsible for the equipment issued to me and I will reimburse the school if it is lost or damaged intentionally.

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)