

CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION POLICY

Coaches, teachers, and administrators welcome your participation in Cleveland High School's athletic programs. It is our belief that participation in athletics promotes a strong and healthy body, mind and spirit. For most students, high school athletics will be the only opportunity to participate in an organized athletic competition. For this reason, we encourage students to participate in as many sports as possible. The following guidelines for participation in Cleveland High School's athletic programs are intended to build quality individuals and teams.

I. Participation

Athletes are expected to participate in all practices and games. If a student must be absent from a practice or game, it is the student's responsibility to notify the coach in writing that he or she will be absent. If a student cannot participate due to an injury or other circumstance, the coach will be notified in writing by the parent or guardian. A student who cannot participate due to a medical problem will provide documentation from a doctor. A medical release will be required before a student is allowed to return to physically participate in practice. Students who cannot physically participate in a practice or game will participate by being at the practice and paying attention to the practice goals for the day. A coach may remove a player from the program for skipping or disrupting practices due to an inability to physically participate in practices.

Most athletic classes require students' participation during fifth period of the school day as well as a continuation of practice after school. Students should not enroll in athletics if they cannot remain for after school practices. Failure to attend practice during fifth period and/or after school practice is **nonparticipation**. Some **examples** of nonparticipation are: **failure to "dress out"** (a student does not bring practice clothes or gear for practice), **checking out of school fifth period** (a student has a parent call school and the student checks out instead of going to practice), **using practice time for make up work** (a student does not go to practice in order to go to another class to make up work), **leaving practice early** (a student leaves practice at the end of fifth period to go to work), **not attending a game**. Because athletics is graded primarily on participation,

nonparticipation will result in a grade reduction for the class. A nonparticipation mark will be noted each time a student, for whatever reason, chooses not to work out, leaves practice early, or is absent without cause during a twelve week period. Grade reductions will be counted as follows:

- 1-2 Nonparticipation in a 12 week period = A
- 3 Nonparticipation in a 12 week period = B
- 4 Nonparticipation in a 12 week period = C
- 5 Nonparticipation in a 12 week period = D
- 6 Nonparticipation in a 12 week period = F

Persistent failure to participate (in practice or games) will result in a student being removed from athletic participation. **It is the head coach's prerogative to remove an athlete from the program for nonparticipation.**

A student may withdraw or be removed from athletics in the first two weeks of the trimester without affecting their grade. Students will be placed in an alternative class for the remainder of the trimester and may earn a passing grade in the alternative class.

Students who quit, drop or are removed from a sport after the first two weeks of the trimester will be placed in athletic training but will receive no credit. If a student refuses to participate in athletic training, the student can receive a failing grade for the entire trimester weeks.

II. Athletic participation fee

Cleveland High School Athletics Department requires a \$15.00 fee for students to participate in high school athletics at our school. This fee is a one time per year fee (you can play as many sports as you wish during a given year) that must be paid each year. The fee is used to support the athletics programs at Cleveland High School. Our athletic programs cannot function without this fee. If you cannot pay the fee, you must contact the Athletic Director to apply for a hardship waiver.

III. Eligibility Requirements

Trimester Block Eligibility (24 weeks)

- A. A Trimester Block consists of the 1st and 2nd trimester or the 2nd and 3rd trimester.
- B. A student must have received a passing grade in any (4) credits counted for graduation of the (5) five possible credits during the previous trimester block (consisting of the previous two trimesters). For example, a student cannot fail more than (3) courses of the (10) offered in any two successive trimesters. The credit pool would include (1) one credit per (10) offered in any two successive trimesters. The credit pool would include (1) one credit per term for the physical education, health, or athletics class.

C. If a student does not meet the scholastic standard stated above, he/she will not be eligible to participate during the first (6) weeks of the next term he/she attends.

D. A student who does not meet the scholastic standard stated above may regain his/her eligibility of achieving passing grades in all subjects he/she is enrolled in at the end of a (6) week period.

E. One summer school credit earned in an Oklahoma State Department of Education accredited program may be used to meet requirements for the end of the 3rd trimester.

Trimester Eligibility: (12 weeks)

A. A student must have received a passing grade in any (4) classes counted for graduation of the (5) possible classes during the previous term. The credit pool would include (1) one credit per term for the physical education, health, or athletics class.

B. If a student does not meet the scholastic standard stated above, he/she will not be eligible to participate during the first (2) weeks of the next trimester he/she attends.

C. A student who does not meet the scholastic standard stated above may regain his/her eligibility by achieving passing grades in all subjects he/she is enrolled in at the end of a (2) two week period.

Weekly Eligibility

A. Scholastic eligibility for students will be checked at the end of the second week of each trimester and each succeeding week thereafter.

B. A student must be passing in all subjects in which he/she is enrolled. If a student is not passing all subjects enrolled in at the end of a week, he/she will be placed on probation for the next one-week period. If a student is still failing one or more classes at the end of his/her probationary one-week period, he/she will be ineligible during the next one week period. **The ineligible period will begin on Monday and end on Sunday.**

IV. Athletic Training

After completion of the season, an athlete will move to the next sport in which he or she is enrolled. If the student is not enrolled in another sport, athletic training will be provided for the remainder of the trimester. Athletic training utilizes strength, aerobic and agility training to improve an athlete's size, speed and strength. **All athletes must participate in athletic training** if they do not move to another sport. A student who does not participate in athletic training will fail the trimester. A student will transfer to another class at the beginning of the new trimester. Athletes are encouraged to remain in athletic training if they are not participating in a sport that is in season.

V. Weight Training

Cleveland High School's administration and coaches are providing quality resources for weight training. The school's facilities are for your use. You will not reach your athletic potential if you do not participate in strength and conditioning training. Please respect and protect the facilities.

Your coach or athletic supervisor will provide you with a weight-training schedule. Follow all safety procedures outlined by your coach or supervisor. Use weight belts and other safety procedures (i.e. Spotters) as required. After use, return all weights, bars, belts, etc. to the appropriate storage spaces. Inappropriate use, or misuse, of the weight facilities will result in suspension from the program and/or sport.

VI. Sportsmanship

All athletes and coaches whether in practice, games, or in any school activity must conduct themselves in keeping with the attributes of good sportsmanship and conduct. Inappropriate language, rowdiness, and disrespectful mannerism are some examples of improper conduct. If there is a question of whether something is good or proper, the athlete should refrain from the action. Fighting, racial slurs, or dangerous behavior will be sanctioned in accordance with school policies and the regulations of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association.

Athletes represent the school and local communities and are obligated to conduct themselves responsibly. If athletes fail to fulfill their obligations, the coach has the authority and responsibility to administer the proper measure of discipline. Such discipline includes dismissing an athlete from the team. **The head coach of a sport has the final authority for determining who will and who will not be on his or her team.** The coach also has the authority to recommend an athlete for a letter award.

VII. Unauthorized absences

Athletes who leave school during the regular school day without parental permission are truant and will receive a minimum of four hours after school detention for the first occurrence. A second occurrence will result in a civil fine as well as after school detention. A third offense will result in suspension from school and removal from athletic participation. Students should be in their respective athletic class during season, and in athletic training if they are not participating in a sport that is in season.

VIII Responsibility for equipment, uniforms, fee, and charges

During the course of athletic participation, athletes will be issued equipment, uniforms, and supplies. Also, athletes may order equipment, practice gear, or other items such as shoes, shirts, hats, or other items for which they agree to pay. Finally, athletes also agree (or be required) to participate in fundraising activities that require payment for goods. All items issued to athletes must be returned in good condition or be paid for by the athlete. The athlete must also pay all fees, charges, or balances.

An athlete will not be allowed to participate in another sport until all items are returned, and all fees or charges are paid. When a sport ends, an athlete will be required to participate in athletic training until the above requirements are met. A student will not be allowed to enroll in a sport if the above requirements are not met.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the policies outlined above:

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date

