

GREENWOOD COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

2021-2022
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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ATHLETE'S HANDBOOK

This booklet explains the objectives and policies of the Interscholastic Athletic Program at Greenwood Community High School. The mental, physical, and emotional growth of a high school student can be enhanced extensively by participating in a well-developed athletic program. Well-defined policies will help faculty, parents, and students place athletics into the proper perspective within the total educational program of our school.

TO ALL PARENTS:

Please take a few minutes to read this entire booklet. It has been prepared as a guide for those who choose to participate in interscholastic athletics.

We are certain that your child will benefit from his/her participation in athletics. Physical strength will increase with consistent training. Mental well-being will improve with team-work and competition. Many values that will help students to become effective members of a community can be gained by participating in athletics.

Please feel free to call the school if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the athletic program. The school depends on the cooperation of parents to aid in promoting a successful and worthwhile athletic program.

The following sports are offered at Greenwood Community High School:

Fall Athletics:

Co-Ed Cross County
Field
Boys Football
Boys Soccer
Boys Tennis
Girls Cheerleading
Girls Golf
Girls Soccer
Girls Volleyball

Winter Athletics:

Boys Basketball
Boys Swimming
Boys Wrestling
Girls Basketball
Girls Cheerleading
Girls Dance
Girls Swimming

Spring Athletics:

Co-Ed Track and
Field
Co-Ed Unified Track
Boys Baseball
Boys Golf
Girls Softball
Girls Tennis

Any student with sufficient ability is eligible to participate, provided he/she meets the scholastic standards and appropriate conduct requirements established by the school.

administration. A student must also abide by the rules and regulations established by the coaching staff of the sport in which he/she participates.

Any student, including a student manager, who participates in any of the previously mentioned sports, is a “Student Participant” or “Athlete” and is under the direct supervision of the athletic department.

The following rules are regulations shall govern all boys and girls who participate in interscholastic athletics at Greenwood Community High School. Such rules are distributed to each Student Participant and a parent of that Student Participant in conformance with I.C. 20-8.1-5-3, as amended from time to time.

Furthermore, Rule C-8-1 of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (“IHSAA”), as amended from time to time, forms the basis and is hereby adopted as a part of the code of conduct for Greenwood Community High School Athletes. Contestants’ conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon their school or the Association, or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school. The principal, by authority vested in him by the school corporation, may exclude contestants from representing the school (IHSAA Rule C-8-1, as amended from time to time).

Notwithstanding the above, coaches or sponsors of specific activities shall have the right to create further rules as they deem proper for that activity and may impose such penalties as appropriate and consistent with this Handbook, for violation of any rules or conduct herein.

1 ELIGIBILITY RULES

The Indiana High School Athletic Association has established rules of eligibility. or concerns regarding the eligibility of a student to participate in athletics should be conveyed to the Athletic Director or Principal.

1.1 AGE-

A student who is or shall be twenty (20) years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be ineligible for interschool athletic competition in that sport; a student who is nineteen (19) years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for interschool athletic competition in that sport.

1.2 GRADES-

To be eligible for participation for a current grading period, a student must

have passed seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit high school or the equivalent for the first grading period of enrollment and must be currently enrolled in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects or the equivalent.

While ineligible, a participant may continue to practice with the team at the discretion of the individual coach. The coach shall consider many factors in determining whether or not an ineligible participant may continue to practice with the team. Such determination(s) shall be made on a case-by-case basis, the coach's decision being the final determination.

1.3 GRADE CHECKS-

Greenwood Community High School operates on a nine-week grading period. Grades will be checked by the Athletic Director prior to the beginning of the sport season and at the conclusion of each grading period.

Greenwood Community High School has declared that grade eligibility will be determined on the Friday following the final day of each quarter.

1.4 PARENT'S & PHYSICIAN'S CONSENT FORM-

Before a student may practice with an athletic team, an IHSAA Consent and Release, Certificate form (Physical), Drug Education and Testing Program Consent, Concussion and GCSC Athletic Consent Form (Handbook) properly completed and signed by the student and parent(s), must be on file in the Athletic Director's Office. An IHSAA physical examination form must also be properly completed and signed by a licensed physician indicating that the student is physically able to play. This form must be renewed each year after April 1st for the next school year.

1.5 PRACTICE RULES-

A student must participate in ten separate days (two days for Girls Golf) of practice or enter that sport directly from another school sport before

he/she may participate in an interscholastic athletic event, where they will need five days. Practice must be under the direct supervision of a member of the coaching staff.

1.6 ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS-

A member of any squad who is unable to practice for five consecutive days due to illness or injury must present a statement from his physician indicating that he is physically able to resume practice. The participant must also present a statement from his/her parent(s) confirming acknowledgment of the doctor's release and consent for the student to resume participation. The Athletic Director, prior to the student's return to practice, must receive these statements.

1.7 AMATEUR STANDING-

A student may lose his/her amateur standing and eligibility for interscholastic sports if he/she accepts gifts or prizes for participation in sporting events as a member of a team that is not affiliated with the school. Questions regarding amateur standing should be directed to the Athletic Director.

1.8 PARTICIPATION RULE-

The IHSAA has strict rules governing participation on teams outside of school.

An example of these rules are: A Student Participant may not participate on teams other than the school team during the contest season, i.e. basketball players on a Greenwood Community High school team cannot play on a church league team during the school's basketball season and softball players on a Greenwood Community High school team cannot try out for Lassie League until the high school season is over.

IHSAA rules are different for teams and individual sports both in and out of seasons. The Athletic Director has rules that pertain to each sport.

IF A STUDENT PLANS TO PARTICIPATE ON A NON-SCHOOL TEAM, HE/SHE IS ADVISED TO DISCUSS SUCH PARTICIPATION WITH A SCHOOL COACH OR THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR BEFORE PARTICIPATING. VIOLATION OF THE IHSAA RULES MAKES ONE INELIGIBLE FOR THE NEXT SEASON AT THE HIGH SCHOOL.

2 AWARDS

2.1 **STANDARDS-**

Each Student Participant must meet specific standards that have been defined for each sport in order to qualify for a varsity letter in that sport. These standards are set by and at the discretion of the Head Coach.

2.2 **GOOD STANDING-**

A Student Participant must complete the season in good standing with the coaching staff, the Office of Athletic Director, the school corporation, and their sport to be eligible for an award.

2.3 **INABILITY TO COMPLETE SEASON-**

If any Student Participant cannot complete the season due to an injury received from participation in that sport, he/she may still receive an award if he/she remains involved with the team in some capacity as directed by the coach, i.e. manager or statistician.

2.4 **LIMITATION-**

An Athlete may earn any of the following awards as they are listed below. Certificates are awarded to all athletes receiving a letter at the Freshman, Reserve, and Varsity levels.

First-time Varsity Award Winners will receive a gold 8 inch “G” chenille letter and their graduation year numerals upon ordering their letter jacket. If a jacket is not going to be ordered, the athletic department can give you the 8 inch “G” chenille letter and numerals.

Special chenille patches will be given to Athletes upon completion of their sixth (6th) Varsity award in a combination of sports.

Special chenille patches will be given to Athletes upon completion of their third (3rd) Varsity award in the same sport. Fall and Winter Cheerleading will be counted separately.

A special plaque will be awarded to any Athlete who earns four (4) varsity awards in the same sport.

A blanket (decorated with a “G”) will be given to Athletes meeting the following criteria:

Athlete must have received eight (8) or more Varsity Letters in varsity sports during his/her high school career. Only one blanket will be awarded per Athlete.

2.5 VARSITY JACKETS-

Varsity Letter Jackets may be ordered through the Athletic Director after earning at least one (1) Varsity award. Jackets must be paid for at the time they are ordered.

2.6 END OF SEASON DEMANDS-

Awards may only be made and delivered to a Student Participant in good standing and upon completion and fulfillment of all end-of-season demands and requirements, i.e., fees paid, uniforms and equipment turned in, etc.

3 ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

All athletes are encouraged to participate in as many sports as their academic itineraries allow. Conditioning programs are offered to students during seasons in which they are not involved in a sport. These programs are designed to improve the overall fitness of the Athlete. They allow for the improvement of particular skills to which the Athlete may not have been attentive during the sport season.

3.1 PARTICIPATION IN TWO OR MORE SPORTS DURING THE SAME SEASON-

An Athlete may participate in more than one sport during the same season if:

The Athlete designates a major or primary sport, and all coaches involved agree with the designation and consent to multiple participation.

4 PERSONAL HABITS, CONDUCT, CITIZENSHIP AND TRAINING

4.1 APPEARANCES-

Successful athletes develop a strong sense of pride. The pride should be reflected in personal appearance and manner of dress. All Student Participants are expected to demonstrate good taste in personal grooming and manner of dress at all times.

4.2 **CITIZENSHIP-**

Good citizenship is expected of all Student Participants at all times. All Student Participants are expected to demonstrate respect for themselves, the team, and the school corporation.

4.3 **USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOL-**

The use or possession of controlled substances, tobacco, and alcohol is strictly prohibited. Student Participants assume a higher profile as representatives of the school; therefore, their behavior is expected to be such that it reflects positively on the school corporation.

4.4 **STUDENT CONDUCT-**

Contestants' conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon their School or the Association, or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the School.

NOTE: It is recognized that principals, by the administrative authority vested in them by their school corporation, may exclude such contestants from representing their School.

4.4 (1) **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Our student-athletes are not restricted from using social media*, however each team/coach has the discretion to establish rules and penalties as they see it.

NOTE: Any use of social media that is deemed inappropriate and does not fit under the RULE 8, Section 1, IHSAA By-laws will face disciplinary action determined on a case by case issue by Athletic Director and Head Coach as well as supported by the Principal.

4.5 **APPLICATION OF ATHLETES' HANDBOOK-**

This Handbook shall apply to all Student Participants/Athletes at all times

(both in and out of school) even though the individual may not be a participant in a sport at the time of a violation or application of the handbook.

4.6 ATHLETIC COUNCIL-

The Greenwood Community High School Athletic Council shall consist of all head coaches for both girls and boys sports, Athletic Directors, and the Principal's Designee. The Council may be called upon to settle questions of applications and interpretations of this Handbook. Two-thirds of all members must be present to constitute a quorum with all decisions based upon a simple majority of those present. The Athletic Director or his designee is the presiding officer of the Council.

The Athletic Council's activities may include, but are not limited to:

4.6(1) Rule on violations not mentioned in this handbook, or assist a coach in ruling on applications and interpretations of this Handbook; or rule on an appeal from a student and/or parent regarding athletic disciplinary action against the student.

4.7 TEAM RULES-

Team Rules shall be established and enforced by the coach of the team. Team Rules may address training and such matters as any display of poor citizenship including, but not limited to, the following: fighting, truancy, disrespect to teachers and/or coaches, and abusive or obscene language. Team Rules may be more demanding and disciplinary actions more severe than those set out in this Athletes' Handbook.

4.8 DUE PROCESS- INVESTIGATION

Investigation of a violation will be conducted by the Athletic Director, or his designee, upon report by a person who has knowledge of the alleged violation. The investigator may require this report to be submitted in writing. This report shall be held in confidence.

The report, if written, should include the following: name of violating Student Participant(s), alleged violation(s), date/time/location of

incident(s), names of other witnesses, and signature of the person filing the report.

The investigation will include:

Gathering of pertinent information from other sources and the involved Athletes.

Informing the Athlete and his/her parents of the charge and informing them that a conference will be held allowing the Athlete to speak on his/her behalf.

ACTION

After the investigation, the Athletic Director will consult with the Athlete to either be declared in violation or not in violation based upon the investigation findings.

If declared in violation, the disciplinary action imposed by the “Ruling Committee” will be based upon the guidelines outlined in Sections 4.6-4.8 and notice of such disciplinary action shall be given to the Athlete and his/her parents by letter.

APPEAL

The student or the student’s parent, within ten (10) days of the date of notification of the disciplinary action may appeal to the Athletic Council (as defined above in 4.5). A request for an informal hearing on any unfavorable decision resulting in suspension or expulsion from athletic participation may be made at the time of appeal. An Athlete who appeals and requests such a hearing shall then receive written notification at least five (5) days prior to the hearing from the Athletic

Council of: (1) the date, time, and place of the informal hearing within 2 weeks (14 days) once the appeal hearing has been granted; (2) that he/she may present at the hearing along with his/her parents, or any witness (es) favorable to the appeal.

The Athletic Council may affirm, reverse or modify the ruling of the “Ruling Committee.”

Unfavorable decisions by the Athletic Council may be appealed to the Principal, whose decision will be final and binding upon all parties involved.

The Principal may affirm, reverse or modify the ruling of the Athletic Council.

4.9 GUIDELINES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR NON-SCHOOL/IN-SEASON-

Definition: An Athlete is “in-season” when (1) he/she is a chosen member of a Greenwood Community High School athletic team; and (2) the time frame is between the first days of practice through elimination from the IHSAA tournament series.

FIRST VIOLATION

The first violation may result in a suspension of 40% of the contests for that sport season. The number of contests listed below has been figured on 40% of the average length in each sport. The suspension will begin immediately following the decision of the ruling committee and will be for consecutive contests PLAYED regardless of weather and cancellations.

Honesty Clause- If the student is honest concerning his/her own involvement when first contacted about the violation, the penalty will be reduced to 20% instead of 40%.

	<u>40%</u>	<u>20%</u>		<u>40%</u>	<u>20%</u>
Baseball	-11	-6	Boys Swimming	-7	-4
Boys Basketball	-8	-4	Girls Swimming	-7	-4
Girls Basketball	-8	-4	Soccer	-6	-3
Cheerleading (F)	-3	-1	Softball	-11	-6
Cheerleading (W)	-8	-4	Boys Tennis	-9	-4
Girls Tennis	-9	-4	Boys Golf	-7	-4
Boys Track	-6	-3	Girls Golf	-7	-4
Girls Track	-6	-3	Cross Country	-6	-3
Volleyball	-11	-6	Football	-4	-2

Wrestling -7 -4

The first violation may result in a suspension of 40% of that season's competition.

IF THE 40% SUSPENSION CANNOT BE FULFILLED DURING THE CURRENT SPORT DUE TO THE SEASON ENDING, THE SUSPENSION WILL CARRYOVER INTO THE NEXT SPORT SEASON IN WHICH THE ATHLETE CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE AND COMPLETE EVEN IF THE NEXT SPORT SEASON IS THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

Example:

If the Athlete has served 15% of the suspension in the current sport, then he/she will be suspended for 25% of the next sport in which he/she chooses to participate.

The Administration may recommend professional and/or school counseling be sought in an effort to determine the cause for the Athlete's conduct.

The Athlete's parents shall be notified of all disciplinary actions and measures.

Athletes who show "poor judgment" by being "in the wrong place at the wrong time" may be subject to disciplinary action.

If an Athlete is involved in two sports in the same season, the discipline shall cover both sports and shall be equal in length to that of their primary sport.

SECOND & SUCCEEDING VIOLATIONS

The second & succeeding violations may result in suspension from all athletic participants for 365 days (one calendar year) beginning from the date of the infraction.

**4.10 GUIDELINES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR NON-SCHOOL/
OUT-OF -SEASON-**

Violations occurring out-of-season may result in other types of disciplinary action, depending upon the circumstances of the violation.

4.11 GUIDELINES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR SCHOOL FUNCTION-

Violations on school grounds or at school activities will be dealt with on the same basis as non-school violations (SEE 4.6-4.8). In addition, an Athlete may also be disciplined as students of Greenwood Community High School by the administration. Disciplinary actions by the school administration may be more severe than outlined in this Handbook.

5 POLICIES

5.1 SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS-

An Athlete who receives a Suspension or is assigned a day of Disciplinary Action in-school or out-of-school will be ineligible to attend any contest or practice which occurs during the Suspension or Disciplinary Action. A Suspension or Disciplinary Action is defined as receiving one or more days of all-day in-school or out-of-school suspension. Rescheduling a Suspension or Disciplinary Action that conflicts with a contest or practice is prohibited.

5.2 PRACTICE ATTENDANCE-

Athletes are expected to attend all practices. The Athlete, prior to practice, must personally notify the coach if he/she cannot attend. Penalty for unexcused absences will be left to the discretion of the coach.

5.3 CONTEST EXPULSION-

Any contestant or coach ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act shall be suspended from the next interscholastic contest at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in addition to any other penalties assessed.

5.4 PARENT AWARENESS-

Parents are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the team rules and regulations in order to help their child adhere to those rules.

5.5 TEAM TRANSPORTATION-

A Student Participant must remain under the supervision of a coach or approved adult on all athletic trips from the time of departure until returning to Greenwood Community High School. A Student Participant wishing to depart from the supervision of the coach or approved adult at any point on a trip must have written permission from his/her parents or must depart in the company of his/her parent(s).

5.6 EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS-

The Student Participant is responsible for any equipment issued for his/her use and shall be returned in satisfactory condition. If the issued equipment is lost, stolen, damaged, or abused, the Student Participant shall pay the replacement cost of the equipment.

5.7 INJURIES-

Any injury sustained by a Student Participant, no matter how minor, must be reported to the coach or athletic trainer immediately.

5.8 ATHLETIC INSURANCE-

Neither the school corporation nor the athletic department carries insurance, which covers students in case of athletic injuries. Parents are encouraged to check with their present health and hospitalization insurance carrier to determine if additional insurance is desirable or required.

Student insurance may be purchased through the Greenwood Community High School office. This policy covers all after-school activities except football. (A policy that does cover football is available.)

5.9 DRESS CODE FOR ATHLETIC EVENTS-

Student Participants should represent Greenwood Community High School in a respectable manner. When a Greenwood Student Participant comes to a home event or travels to another school as a competitor, he/she should dress in a manner above criticism. Coaches may suggest certain types of attire.

5.10 ABSENCES-

If a Student Participant is absent from school for health reasons for the last four periods of the day, he/she shall not be permitted to practice or compete in any contest on that particular day.

If there is an emergency situation or a need for interpretation for this Handbook, the Athletic Director will determine the Student Participant's status. Such determination by the Athletic Director shall be final.