

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Athletics Handbook 2017-2018

Thank you for your interest in athletics in the schools of the Woodland Joint Unified School District.

This handbook was written through the efforts of parent/guardians, coaches, teachers and District leadership to assist parent/guardians and students in understanding their obligations to the team, school and community so that they may fully enjoy the benefits associated with their participation.

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RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT
FOR
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION

School Year _____

This is a release of liability and assumption of risk agreement. Read it carefully and sign below. Completion of this release is a prerequisite to participation in any interscholastic activity. This release essentially says that my son/daughter _____ **(name)** is going to participate in _____ **(name of sport)**, an athletic activity. If he/she is hurt, injured or even dies, we (i.e., the student, parents and heirs) will not make a claim against or sue the Woodland Joint Unified School District, its trustees, officers, employees and agents, or expect them to be responsible or pay for any damages.

We, the undersigned, understand and acknowledge that _____ **(name of student)** has voluntarily chosen to participate in this athletic activity. We know and fully understand that any athletic activity, including _____ **(name of sport)**, involves numerous risks, dangers and hazards, both known and unknown, where serious accidents can occur, participants can sustain physical injuries, damage to their property, and even die. Regardless of whether the athletic activity involves physical contact or not, all athletic activities and sports have inherent risks of injury which are inseparable from the activity. We acknowledge and willingly assume all risks and hazards of potential injury and death in this athletic activity, whether in practice, games, meets, or any other type of competition, including any transportation to or from any such event.

_____’s **(name of student)** participation in this activity is purely voluntary and it is being done at his/her own risk.

In consideration for the District allowing the student to participate in this athletic activity, we voluntarily agree to release, waive, discharge, and hold harmless the District and its trustees, officers, employees and agents from any and all claims of liability arising out of their negligence, or any other act or omission which causes the student illness, injury, death and damages of any nature in any way connected with the student’s participation in this activity. We also expressly agree to release and discharge the District, its trustees, officers, employees and agents from any act or omission of negligence in rendering or failing to render any type of emergency or medical services.

As a parent or legal guardian of the student/participant under 18 years of age, I have read and voluntarily agree that my son/daughter may participate in this athletic activity, and I sign this release on his/her behalf. *In signing this document, I fully recognize and understand that if my son/daughter is hurt, dies or his/her property is damaged, I am giving up their right and their parents and heirs to make a claim or file a lawsuit against District, its trustees, officers, employees and agents.*

California Law provides as follows: “All persons making the field trip or excursion shall be deemed to have waived all claims against the District or the State of California for injury, accident, illness, or death, occurring during or by reason of the field trip or excursion. All adults taking out-of-state field trips or excursions and all parents or guardians of pupils taking out-of-state field trips or excursions, shall sign a statement waiving such claims.” (Education Code Section 35330)

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS. WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE ASSUMING ALL RISKS INHERENT IN THIS ATHLETIC ACTIVITY. WE VOLUNTARILY SIGN OUR NAME AS EVIDENCE OF OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABOVE PROVISIONS, PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITY AND ANY FIELD TRIP OR EXCURSION ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

DATE: _____

Student/Participant Signature

DATE: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

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AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT ATHLETE AND PARENT/GUARDIAN
REGARDING USE OF STEROIDS

As a condition of membership in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) and in accordance with Education Code 49030, the Governing Board of the Woodland Joint Unified School District has adopted Board Policy 5131.63 prohibiting the use and abuse of androgenic/anabolic steroids as specified below. CIF Bylaw 524 requires that all participating students and their parents/guardians sign this agreement.

By signing below, we agree that the student shall not use androgenic/anabolic steroids or any dietary supplement banned by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency as well as the substance synephrine, without a written prescription from a licensed health care practitioner to treat a medical condition.

We recognize that under CIF Bylaw 200.D the student may be subject to penalties, including ineligibility for any CIF competition, if the student or his/her parent/guardian provides false or fraudulent information to the CIF.

We understand that the student's violation of the district's policy regarding steroids may result in discipline against him/her including, but not limited to, restriction from athletics or suspension or expulsion from school.

Name of Student Athlete (print)

Date

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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PHILOSOPHY OF STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Woodland Joint Unified School District recognizes athletics and extra-curricular activities as integral parts of the entire school setting and as a means of achieving a student's complete educational development. As such, we believe that all students should have an opportunity to participate in some form of activity, and that such participation should encourage positive scholastic, social growth and achievement. Both the student and the activity itself should be a credit to the District and the general community.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will assist parent/guardians and students in understanding the groups affected by the standards outlined in this handbook.

ATHLETICS

Athletics is an extra-curricular activity. Students who participate in sports governed by the Sac-Joaquin section of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) are participants in athletics. Sports include, but are not limited to: football, cheer, baseball, track, cross country, soccer, golf, basketball, wrestling, softball, volleyball, swimming and tennis.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Students should strive to develop a personal code of conduct consistent with the time-honored values of sportsmanship, scholarship, integrity, commitment and respect for self and others. Furthermore, as a result of participation, students should strive to become advocates for the school and community.

Participation in athletics activities requires adherence to the highest standards. These standards include fairness in competition and respect for the people and institutions associated with athletic contests and other activities.

If a student is suspended from school he/she may not be on school grounds, attend practice, be on the sidelines during a game or competition, or travel with his/her team on the days he/she is suspended. If a student is assigned an in-school suspension, he/she is may not attend practice, be on the sidelines during a game or completion, or travel with his/her team on the day the in-school suspension is assigned.

Good sportsmanship requires that student athletes and students involved in activities adhere to the rules of the game or activity. Furthermore, it requires that participants comply with the spirit of those rules which were written to promote fairness. Students of this District are required to comply with the rules of each sport or activity so that fairness in competition is not limited by their actions.

FOR STUDENT ATHLETES ON THE FIELD: Student athletes should be respectful towards their coaches, spectators, teammates, opponents and officials. They should abide by all rules of the game. They should be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

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FOR ALL STUDENTS ON CAMPUS: All students should set an example of good citizenship. They should help promote school spirit and be positive leaders in school activities.

FOR ALL STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM: Students should show respect for teachers and their classmates. They should maintain good attendance, satisfactory grades and satisfactory citizenship.

FOR ALL STUDENTS ON TRIPS: Students should conduct themselves so that they are positive representatives of their community, school, group or team. All students should at all times be conscientious regarding their appearance and manners.

In addition to violation of any other rules/guidelines stated in this Handbook, any of the following types of conduct by a student is sufficient to justify suspension or removal from an athletic team:

1. No student shall conspire to engage in hazing/bullying, participate in hazing/bullying or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or other person including, but not limited to, the use of social media. Students violating this policy shall be subject to District discipline and penalties specified in law.
2. Use of profanity, vulgar language, or vulgar gesture.
3. Disrespectful conduct toward other persons, teams, schools or institutions.
4. Throwing of equipment or any similar display of immaturity.
5. Defiant or inattentive behavior toward any coach, school official, group leader, game or activity official.
6. Theft, or intentionally damaging, defacing, or possessing without permission, the property of another person, entity or school property.
7. Commission of any act for which suspension from class or school or expulsion from the schools of the District could be imposed. Students are referred to school and District rules on conduct, which may be "cause" for suspension or expulsion from school.
8. Violation of any law, any rule, regulation, policy, or code of the District, school athletic department, California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), athletic league or organization in which the team or group participates. [Coaches and advisors shall explain any local or league rules to students at or near the beginning of participation.]
9. Use, possession, or furnishing of any tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal or restricted drugs. [This includes the expectation that students will not attend gatherings where tobacco, alcohol, or illegal or restricted drugs are illegally being used or, in any method, promote, demonstrate, or celebrate the use.]

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10. Sexual conduct defined as unlawful by California law.

11. Truancy, tardiness or absence without proper excuse from school activities.

A student may be suspended or removed from an athletic team for acts that are enumerated above and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including but not limited to any of the following:

- while off school grounds or any property where an extra-curricular activity or athletic team exercise or event is occurring;
- while going to or coming from school or any such activity, exercise or event;
- during the lunch period whether on or off campus, or during any meal period during an extra-curricular activity or athletic team exercise or event; or
- during or while going to or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

ARREST OF A STUDENT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY: Upon being placed under arrest by law enforcement authority for violation of law or no later than the beginning of the next school day or next school activity (whichever occurs first), the student shall inform his/her activity advisor or coach of the fact of the arrest and the circumstances and incident or incidences that resulted in the arrest. The advisor or coach, in conjunction with the site administration, shall determine whether suspension or removal from the activity or team is warranted, and if any such action is warranted, the advisor or coach shall take appropriate action. Nothing contained herein shall preclude the advisor or coach from withholding from participation any student who has been arrested for violation of law (a) until the above determination has been made, or (b) as an alternative to suspension or removal from the activity or team.

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RULES FOR ROAD TRIPS

1. Whenever the District provides transportation for an away contest or an event for extra-curricular purposes, students are required to travel to and from the event on District provided transportation.
2. Buses will leave on time. Students who miss a bus may not participate in the contest.
3. **At coach/activity leader discretion, students may return with their parents/guardians ONLY if a written request is provided to the supervisor.** Any requests for students to ride home with their parent/guardians must be provided by the student's parent or guardian prior to departure from the game. Students are not allowed to ride with anyone except their parent/guardian unless otherwise authorized by their parent/guardian to travel with a district approved driver. District approved drivers must complete volunteer clearance and volunteer personal vehicle insurance forms, be finger printed, and provide a copy of their auto insurance, driver's license, and a current negative TB test.
4. Coaches, activity leaders and students are expected to dress in an appropriate manner for bus trips. Coaches and activity leaders will establish requirements for proper bus attire.
5. Students may not use radios with external speakers while traveling on the bus. I Pods with headphones will be allowed at coach's discretion.

QUITTING A TEAM OR GROUP

Students who quit a team or have been removed from a team or group for disciplinary reasons may not participate in organized conditioning and/or practices, use school equipment or come in contact with the coach and may not begin the next sport or other activity until the previous sport or activity has completed its season (including play-offs, when applicable). An extended trial tryout period can be arranged for student athletes for overlapping sports by coaches and athletic director. Any student that quits a team at one school in the district will have the same rule apply to him or her at his or her new district school.

GUIDELINES FOR PARENT SUPPORT AND CONDUCT

In our continuing effort to establish and maintain clear lines of communication between the Athletic Department Staff and the parents/guardians of our student-athletes, the coaching staff has established a process for communication. ***Do not attempt to confront a coach before, during, or after a contest or practice.*** Those can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of that nature, and at those times, do not promote positive communication or resolution. A 24 hour cool down period is expected by all associated with the athletic program. The following guidelines will help make the communication process a productive and positive experience.

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Parent Support Guidelines: It is the intent of the Athletic Department to provide an avenue for meaningful dialogue and positive communication between coaches and parents. Working together, we can and will accomplish many great things.

1. Parents can use this process to ask questions and obtain information or insight.
2. The coach will discuss what the student-athlete needs to work on in order to develop and improve.
3. The coach will only talk to a parent/guardian about his/her own child.
4. If the guidelines are not adhered to, the discussion will end.
5. If a resolution is not reached, the parent/guardian should then contact the head varsity level coach in that particular sport or the athletic director if the discussion already involves the head varsity coach.

Strategies for Parents and Student-Athlete Communication with Coaches:

1. All meetings with coaches are to be made **BY SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT**. Coaches will make their contact number(s) and/or email address(es) available to parents/guardians. Parents will refrain from calling coaches at their homes.
2. Both schools have agreed that spontaneous meetings between parents/guardians and coaches on the athletic fields, in the gym, or locker rooms is not allowed.
3. Coaches **WILL NOT** discuss playing time, game strategies, or other student-athletes with parents.
4. The protocol when resolving an issue between a student-athlete and coach is as follows:
 - a. **First step** > student-athlete will make an appointment and meet with the coach;
 - b. **Second step** > student-athlete and parent will make an appointment and meet with coach;
 - c. **Third step** > student-athlete and parent will make an appointment and meet with coach and athletic director;
 - d. **Final step** > student-athlete and parent will make an appointment to meet with coach, athletic director, and administrator in charge of athletics.
5. There will be no establishment of parent groups, websites, athlete groups, etc., without the written consent of the head coach, the athletic director, and principal or designee of the school involved.
6. The sole purpose of an extra-curricular parent booster group is for positive reinforcement and support of the athletes, the athletic program, and to assist in the fund-raising for that program. This is the sole purpose of booster support.
7. Any student-athlete that makes the decision to leave the team will make an appointment with the head coach to notify him/her of their decision, and hand in any school issued equipment at that time. Failure to turn in equipment will result in a fee being placed on student's record.
8. We understand that it is a privilege to wear the school colors and uniforms/jerseys of the high school. We understand the sacrifices made to be part of this tradition. Therefore, we will have **ZERO TOLERANCE** for any incidents of hazing, initiation, harassment, disorderly conduct toward, intimidation of, bullying of, or discrimination against any other student, parent, official, or coach from Woodland Joint Unified School District or any of our opponents in any form, including, but not limited to, social media.

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GUIDELINES FOR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR

Parent/guardians, coaches and other adult leaders are role models for students. Students cannot be expected to maintain high standards if adults do not model those standards.

League and C.I.F. Sac-Joaquin Section Sportsmanship Rules are in effect for all athletic contests, grades 9-12. The following behavior is unacceptable at all contests:

1. Complaining about officials' calls (verbal or gestures).
2. Berating any players or coaches.
3. Berating opponent's school or mascot and "trash talking."
4. Obscene cheers or gestures.
5. Use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs/controlled substances.

Privileges for spectators who engage in these inappropriate behaviors may be revoked and spectator may be asked to leave.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The District recognizes the importance of school attendance and expects all students to establish good attendance patterns. Students must attend all class periods of school for the day they wish to participate in any extra-curricular activity, whether it be athletics or otherwise. This includes practices, meetings, performances, competitions and games. The only exceptions are:

1. Absences due to a verifiable medical/dental appointment.
2. Absences due to funerals as defined by Education Code (immediate family only).
3. Absences due to field trips and other school activities should be cleared by the school administration.

PRACTICE AND CONTEST ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all practices and contests unless they are absent from school due to illness or they are excused as stated above.

1. Unexcused absences from practice or failure to maintain good school attendance may be considered just cause for removal from a team or other group.
2. Coaches may adopt individual rules for contest, and practice attendance. All individual rules must be approved by the Athletic Director.

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

NINETEENTH BIRTHDAY

No student whose nineteenth birthday is attained prior to June 15th shall participate or practice on any team. A student, whose nineteenth birthday is on June 14th, or before, is ineligible. Any athletic contest in which an ineligible student has participated, either intentionally or unintentionally, involving both team and individual sports, must be forfeited. Also, the student may be subject to dismissal from the team, pending a review.

SEMESTER OF ATTENDANCE

Upon entering the ninth grade, a student has eight consecutive semesters of athletic eligibility to compete in high school athletics in California (or upon entering tenth grade a student has six consecutive semesters of athletic eligibility). Enrollment and/or attendance for fifteen days or more shall count as one of eight semesters. (Recommended 15 CIF.)

OUTSIDE COMPETITION

A student on a team, grades 9–12, becomes ineligible if the student competes in a contest on an “outside” team in the same sport during the student’s school season of sport. An “outside” team is defined as a non-district team.

Any students competing on a District team after an infraction of the above rule may be disqualified from all interscholastic athletics during the season in which the infraction occurs, and the games in which the student participated may be forfeited.

RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

The California Interscholastic Federation requires that a student who participates on a school team must be living with parent/guardians or legal guardians who reside within the school’s attendance boundaries (CIF Articles 206 & 207). All exceptions to this rule require that special permission and letters of approval be on file before a student can be declared eligible. Questions about these exceptions should be addressed to the athletic director or the administrator in charge of athletics.

The penalty for allowing an ineligible athlete to participate is severe. The team must forfeit all contests in which the athlete participated. Any athlete living outside the school’s boundaries should notify his/her coach of his/her residence at the beginning of the season so that the coach can make sure that all appropriate forms and approvals are on file.

If a student and his/her parent/guardians move out of the attendance area, but the student remains in the school, the parent/guardian and student must immediately report the change of residence to the coach and school registrar. In some cases, students who move can retain their eligibility, but special forms and approvals must be on file. ***FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN ATHLETIC INELIGIBILITY.***

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ATHLETIC CLEARANCE CARD

Every student wishing to participate in a sport must have a clearance card. In order to be issued a clearance card, the student and the student's parent/guardian must complete the forms in the athletic clearance card packet. The packet includes the following forms:

1. *Physical Card:* Signed by a parent/guardian and the physician who supervised the examination.
2. *Insurance Verification:* Insurance plan information must be provided prior to the first practice/tryouts. [Some insurance plans do not cover some injuries or sports. Please check with your provider. CIF insurance is available upon request.]
3. Parent/Guardians' Medical information Release form.
4. Student/Parent/Guardian Handbook Acknowledgment form.
5. Coach/Activity Leader Philosophy and Standards of Participation form.
6. Residential Eligibility Form.
7. Debt Clearance.

EQUIPMENT

The District and the Athletic Departments provide a great deal of money to purchase and maintain proper equipment. Equipment must be handled properly to maintain accurate financial records and to encourage student responsibility.

1. All equipment will be inventoried, numbered and checked out by coaches.
2. Equipment should be returned in the same condition in which it was received, allowing for normal wear. Equipment and uniforms should be cleaned and washed before being returned. Students are expected to make arrangements to have torn or ripped clothing repaired before return.
3. Broken equipment must be returned before replacement equipment can be issued.
4. Students are responsible for replacing lost and/or stolen equipment or uniforms.
5. All equipment must be returned within one (1) week of the last contest. A late fee of \$5.00 may be assessed for any equipment turned in late.

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6. Until all equipment is returned and/or paid for, no awards, letters or trophies will be issued and a fee will be placed on student's records.
7. **Students must return or pay for all equipment before they can practice or participate in another sport.**
8. Students who leave a team prior to the end of the season must turn in their equipment within one (1) week or a \$5.00 late fee may be assessed.

ELIGIBILITY FOR PATCHES OR OTHER AWARDS:

To be eligible to earn league patches or other awards a student must complete the season of sport, including post season or play-offs if applicable.

DISCIPLINE PROCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Any student who is suspended for drug, alcohol or tobacco use will automatically be suspended and removed from the team. Also any student who is suspended for committing an expellable offense will be removed from the team. This would be for the remainder of the season of the infraction and this would apply to intra-district transfers. Any students involved in a fight will be suspended from school and it will be the sole discretion of the administration to decide whether they are removed from the team.

Before a student is suspended for more than one week or removed from an activity/team, the coach shall meet with the student regarding the reason(s) suspension or removal is being considered and the facts of the infraction(s). If a suspension or removal is imposed, the coach, athletic director or club advisor shall inform the parents and document the actions in writing.

If parent/guardians or students are dissatisfied with a disciplinary action involving a suspension for more than one week or removal of the student from an activity/team, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. The parent/guardians and student shall schedule a meeting with the coach and shall discuss with him/her the reasons for the action.
2. If the parent/guardians or student are dissatisfied with the decision rendered by the advisor/coach in or after the meeting, the student or parent/guardian must notify the athletic director of their dissatisfaction within three (3) school days after the conference indicated in step 1.
3. Within three (3) school days of being notified of the intent to appeal, the athletic director shall appoint a committee to hear the appeal. The committee will consist of two certificated staff members and one administrator (other than the principal).

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4. The appeals committee shall meet with the parent/guardians and student regarding the disciplinary action and make a recommendation to the principal.
5. The parent/guardians or students may appeal the committee's recommended decision to the principal within three (3) school days after receiving notice of the recommendation. The principal will review the decision of the committee. The principal shall make a decision whether to uphold, reduce, or eliminate the disciplinary action and shall inform the parent/guardians and students of the decision in writing. The decision of the principal shall be final unless the principal finds cause to refer the appeal to the Superintendent's designee, in which case he/she will notify the superintendent's designee and the parent/guardians and student.
6. The superintendent's designee will review the referred matter, may request a meeting with the parent/guardians and student, and make a final decision regarding the appeal.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL STUDENTS

In order to promote and encourage academic excellence, all students participating in extra-curricular activities shall demonstrate satisfactory progress in meeting the requirements of graduation by undertaking the prescribed course of study and meeting standards of proficiency established by the District.

All students shall be conditionally eligible for extra curricular activities entering ninth grade at the freshman and junior varsity athletic level. If the student does not meet the above requirement at the end of the waiver, he/she shall not be allowed to participate in extra/co-curricular activities in the subsequent grading period. Ninth grade students competing at the varsity level during the first six weeks of their ninth grade year must provide verification of grade point average.

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CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY

Per WJUSD Board policy 6145, a student is scholastically eligible if:

- 1) The student is enrolled in a full course load. A full course load is 7 semester courses for a total of 35 credits. The only exception to this full course load is when an accelerated student has achieved all of the necessary requirements for early graduation. The accelerated student must be enrolled in at least 4 semester courses for a total of 20 credits in order to participate in extra-curricular activities.
- 2) The student has maintained a 2.0 grade point average and be on track to graduate as determined by site administration and athletic director.
- 3) The student has maintained, during the previous grading period, a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average, on a 4.0 scale, in all enrolled courses. Any grade change after grades are issued must be a computational error and approved by the principal.

The student is maintaining minimum progress toward meeting the high school graduation requirements as prescribed by the local governing board if they have acquired the number of credits outlined below:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Credits at Beginning of Fall</u>	<u>Credits at Beginning of Spring</u>
9	N/A	0
10	25	60
11	95	125
12	160	195

NOTE: Students who do not meet credit criteria may not participate in any sport at a competitive level. Students may continue to participate in practices with a team until eligibility is acquired and confirmed by administration. Student eligibility will be determined once report cards or progress reports are issued at the end of each grading period or semester.

Parents and student athletes are encouraged to check School Loop regularly to ensure students remain eligible to participate.

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PROBATIONARY PERIOD WAIVER

1. The waiver is to include only one grading period. Once the student participates in an official extra-curricular activity (practice, competition), the probation will be recorded. Students who elect not to use their waiver may practice with the team given the coach's consent, but may not have the rights and privileges of a team member. Until a student is academically eligible, they may not travel with the team, will not have sideline privileges, cannot wear school athletic uniform, and will not be allowed to sit on the team bench, but may be present at the school event.
2. The date of eligibility/ineligibility will be the day report cards are issued.
3. For purposes of this policy, "classes" includes all courses which grant credit on the transcripts of students in the District, excluding homerooms, alpha and advisory classes.
4. Transfer students from outside the Woodland Joint Unified School District will be granted one probationary period during their enrollment in this District. These students will be held to the same eligibility standards as students within the Woodland Joint Unified School District.

SUMMER SCHOOL CREDITS

Summer School credits shall be counted toward making up scholastic deficiencies incurred in the grading period (semester) immediately preceding. Summer School courses failed shall not impair an athlete's scholastic eligibility achieved in the semester immediately preceding.

A course taken by contract or independent study during the summer must meet the following four criteria:

1. The course(s) must be approved by the local Board of Trustees as a valid part of the district's school program.
2. The student receives a passing grade in the courses taken.
3. The personnel providing the instruction and course supervision is approved by the Board of Trustees.
4. The school credit is recorded on the student's transcript.
5. Any courses taken during the summer that would affect an athlete's scholastic eligibility must be completed by the end of the districts summer school.

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NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY

NCAA CLEARING HOUSE

For complete information, obtain the *NCAA's pamphlet on Freshman-Eligibility Standard, College Entrants 1996-97 and thereafter for both Division I and Division II* from your coach and/or counselor. Eligibility information is also available by calling 1-800-638-3731 and on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ncaa.org>.

If you plan to participate in athletics in a Division I or Division II school as a freshman, you must register with and be certified as eligible by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearing House.

You should register with the clearinghouse whenever you decide you would like to participate in athletics as a college freshman. It is generally best to register after your completion of sophomore year. Although you may register any time prior to participation, if you register late, you may face delays that will prevent you from practicing and competing.

For more information, please see your school counselor.

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION
SAC-JOQUIN SECTION
ATHLETIC INFORMATION
www.cifsjs.org

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Your high school years will be highlighted by your participation in your school's interscholastic athletic program. These will be some of the most enjoyable years of your young life. During this time, the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section has standards that you must meet in order to be eligible to compete. In addition, there are local school standards which apply.

Information presented by the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section will acquaint you with the by-laws and regulations all students must follow in order to protect athletic eligibility. Any questions that you have should be directed to your school principal or athletic director.

The eligibility standards of the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section have been adopted by the member schools and were accepted by your school when it became a CIF Sac-Joaquin Section member.

You are urged as a student-athlete to study these standards carefully. We want you to enjoy your school years.

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RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

A student has residential eligibility upon initial enrollment in:

- ninth grade of any California Interscholastic Federation high school, a California Interscholastic Federation junior high school, or a junior high school under provisions of Bylaw 303;
- tenth grade of any California Interscholastic Federation high school from the ninth grade of a junior high school; or
- any California Interscholastic Federation school as a member of an approved foreign exchange program as outlined in Bylaw 212. (See: Foreign student eligibility).

CHANGING SCHOOLS/TRANSFERS

A student may have transfer eligibility provided the student is compelled to move from any school to a CIF school due to:

1. a bona fide change of residence from one school of attendance to the attendance area of the new school by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) with whom the student was living when the student established residential eligibility at the prior school, or
2. a ruling by the Board of Education of a school district, which has two or more high schools, provided the change of schools is not the result of disciplinary action.

CHANGING SCHOOLS

Any student transferring under the provisions of an open enrollment board policy, public or private, will have immediate residential eligibility upon transfer from school A to school B, subject to the following notations:

1. Only one transfer is allowed during the student's high school career after initial enrollment.
2. For inter-district and intra-district open enrollment transfers involving public and/or private schools, the receiving school shall have established an application deadline the first two weeks in February, preceding the school year for which the student wishes to transfer.
3. The receiving school shall have distributed notice to the general public of the options available under its open enrollment policy.
4. The receiving school must have a copy of the Principal's Statement of Compliance form on file with its league and/or Section office as determined by its Section.

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CHANGING SCHOOLS/HARDSHIPS

If you change schools and your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) do not move to the attendance area of your new school, you could have restricted eligibility for one (1) year unless you qualify for a hardship. A hardship is defined as an enforceable, unavoidable or uncorrectable act, condition or event, which causes the imposition of a severe and non-athletic burden upon the student or family. The three considerations for hardship are financial considerations, medical considerations and family circumstances.

Always check with your school principal before you change schools in order to determine whether it will affect your eligibility.

SCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY

Do not change your course schedule or drop a course without first consulting with your school principal, counselor or athletic director to determine whether it will affect your eligibility. A student is scholastically eligible if,

1. The student is currently enrolled in at least 20 semester periods of work unless they are studying on an accelerated program.
2. The student passed at least 20 semester periods of work at the completion of the previous regular grading period.
3. The student is maintaining minimum progress toward meeting the high school graduation requirements as prescribed by the governing board.
4. The student has maintained during the previous grading period a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in all enrolled courses.

SEMESTERS OF ATTENDANCE

A student who first enters the ninth grade of any school following the student's completion of the eighth grade in any school may be eligible for athletic competition during a maximum period of time that is not to exceed eight consecutive semesters following the initial enrollment in the ninth grade of any school, and said eligibility must be used during the student's first eight consecutive semesters of enrollment at that school or any other school.

AGE LIMITATIONS

No student whose nineteenth (19) birthday is attained prior to June 15th shall participate or practice on any team. A student whose nineteenth birthday is on June 14th or before is ineligible.

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COMPETING UNDER A NAME OTHER THAN YOUR OWN/FALSIFYING ADDRESS

Any student whose address or name has been falsified in order to achieve residential eligibility will be ineligible in all interscholastic athletic competition for a period of one (1) year from the date the infraction is verified.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

An annual physical examination or statement by a medical practitioner certifying that the student is physically fit to participate in athletics is required before a student may try out, practice or participate in interscholastic athletic competition.

UNDUE INFLUENCE RECRUITMENT OF STUDENT ATHLETES

The use of undue influence by any person or persons to secure or retain a student or to secure or retain one or both parent/guardians of a student as residents, may cause the student to be ineligible for high school athletics for a period of one (1) year and shall jeopardize the standing of the high school in the California Interscholastic Federation.

COMPETITION ON AN OUTSIDE TEAM

A student on a high school team becomes ineligible if the student competes in a contest on an "outside" team in the same sport during the student's high school season of sport.

STUDENT AWARD LIMITATION

A high school student may not receive from any source an athletic award for CIF high school competition of more than twenty-five dollars (\$25) in value. The athletic award may be fifty dollars (\$50) for league championships or one hundred dollars (\$100) for CIF Section Championship teams. Whether the student participates in other than CIF competition in a CIF approved sport, at any time during the calendar year, the student is governed by the awards rules of the amateur governing body for that sport.

STUDENT SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Student participation in athletic contests is a privilege. As a student athlete, you are expected to conduct yourself in an exemplary manner at all times. During participation in all CIF competition, a student who is ejected or disqualified from participating in the remainder of said contest will be ineligible for the team's next contest. In addition, any student who physically assaults a game or event official shall be banned from interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's interscholastic eligibility.

SECTION BYLAW 302.3: Any player ejected or any player who leaves the confines of the bench or team area during a fight that may break out or has broken out shall be

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disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for the team's next contest.

NOTE: *Any athlete who plays in the next game following his/her ejection will be treated as an ineligible player for that game. (Bylaw 213.5)*

Appellate Procedures: Any student may appeal his/her one game suspension to the league. Each league shall establish appellate procedures to determine the eligibility of student athletes who are ejected from an interscholastic contest. A final report on all appeals shall be sent to the Section Commissioner by the league president.

SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS - TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL

The CIF Sac-Joaquin Section is proud to promote high academic standards. Two awards are given each year to recognize team and individual scholastic achievement. These are the Scholastic Team Achievement Award (STAA) which recognizes the teams within the Sac-Joaquin Section with a GPA of 3.0 or higher that qualify for the playoffs, and the Dale Lacky Award, which recognizes the top female and male student athletes in the Section.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Each CIF Section may grant approval, upon individual petition, for an athlete to travel to a foreign country to participate in international competition sanctioned by the governing body for that sport in the United States and the international governing body.

INTERCOLLEGIATE PARTICIPATION

A student who participates in an intercollegiate athletic contest prior to the completion of his/her eight consecutive semesters of high school eligibility shall be ineligible for high school participation in that sport for the duration of the student's high school enrollment.

BYLAW 600 PENALTY

A. Individual

- (1) **First Offense in High School Career in Any Sport**
The student becomes immediately ineligible for participation with his/her high school team for a number of contests equal to twice the number of contests of outside competition in which the student participated.
- (2) **Any Subsequent Offense in High School Career in Any Sport**
The student becomes immediately ineligible for one year (365 days) from the second infraction in all sports.
- (3) **Appeals**
Upon written appeal to the Section Commissioner, the student may petition his/her Section for reinstatement of his/her eligibility status.

B. Team

- (1) **Games Forfeited**
Games in which a student participated on his/her high school team after violation of Bylaw 600 shall be forfeited.
- (2) **Appeals**
Sections may establish rules and procedures to consider requests for waivers of game forfeitures.

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TRI-COUNTY CONFERENCE

INDERKUM • PIONEER • RIO LINDA • RIVER CITY • RIVER VALLEY • YUBA CITY • WOODLAND

◀ **CONTACT INFORMATION** ▶

PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL

1400 Pioneer Avenue, Woodland, CA 95776 • (530) 406-1148
Principal, Sandra Reese
Athletic Director, Josh Holloway

WOODLAND HIGH SCHOOL

21 N. West Street • Woodland, CA 95695 • (530) 662-4678
Principal, Karrie Sequeira
Athletic Director, Javier Marin

TCC COMMISSIONER

Tom Henderson
1317 Westway Drive
Woodland, CA 95695
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CIF MEMBER

SAC-JOQUIN SECTION

Commissioner, Mike Garrison
1368 E. Turner Road
Lodi, CA 95240