

Maumee Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook



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The Purpose of Maumee Student-Parent Handbook

The purpose of the Maumee Student-Parent Handbook is to give all students participating in interscholastic athletics and others involved with the program such as families and fans a guide to the operation of the Athletic Department and the expectations for all who represent the athletic program for Maumee. The specific rules, regulations, policies and procedures explained by this handbook are expected to be followed and may be reviewed periodically throughout the school year by the coaches and administration of Maumee Schools.

Philosophy of Maumee Athletics

The Maumee City School District is committed to pursue excellence in athletics and have the student-athlete compete at the highest level at which he/she is capable. To this end, the commitment to improve does not end with the season; student-athletes are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities provided by the Maumee City Schools' coaching staff outside of the season that will enhance personal improvement and build a "team" concept.

- Participation in athletics is not a right, but a privilege. Students who choose to participate want to be challenged and want to represent their school and willingly accept that role.
- The athletic programs offered by the Maumee City Schools (grades 7-12) promote and develop competitiveness, teamwork and leadership skills.
- The coaches are charged with selecting and fielding the most competitive teams based on the student-athletes at their disposal for any particular game or event and will determine the roles and playing time of all student-athletes in their program.
- Student-athletes are expected to maintain high levels of sportsmanship, respect (for each other, the game and opponent), and leadership whether their role is on or off the field of play.

Maumee student-athletes will be encouraged to pursue a well-rounded competitive experience, offering their skills and abilities to a variety of athletic endeavors. Be proud to represent Maumee.

Scope of Participation in Interscholastic Athletics

Participation in interscholastic athletics with the Maumee City Schools is not a right, but a privilege that will be regulated by the administration of the Maumee City Schools and its Board of Education. All students participating in the Maumee athletic program including support personnel such as scorekeepers, team managers and statisticians are required to become familiar with and abide by all rules and regulations as set forth in the Maumee Athletic Code of Conduct and established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association as well as all school rules, policies and procedures found in the Maumee Student Handbook at Maumee High School and Maumee Middle School.

Additionally, the student-athlete will be responsible to adhere to any individual training rules placed upon him/her by a coach or school athletic trainer during that season. Upon the

student-athlete's signature of acknowledgment of his/her athletic responsibility, the Athletic Code of Conduct shall apply to the student-athlete at all times during the calendar year regardless of whether or not the student is on school property, attending a school function or activity, on private property or at a private party. The Athletic Code of Conduct will be issued to all participants and copies of this Athletic Code of Conduct and the Maumee Student Handbook will be posted in a central location in the High School and/or posted in the Athletic Office. A commitment to follow the rules, regulations, policies and procedures established by the district and its coaches for the implementation of the athletic program is required by all student-athletes and their parents/guardians as a condition for participating in interscholastic athletics. Any student-athlete in violation of these rules, regulations, policies and procedures shall face disciplinary action such as suspension from participation in interscholastic athletics for a set period of time or possible removal altogether. A student who has been denied participation for disciplinary or academic reasons for the season or longer may forfeit any athletic awards earned for athletic activity for that season from Maumee. Furthermore, the individual may forfeit the right to receive any other association's awards or recognitions in the name of Maumee as a result of his/her participation in the athletic activity at Maumee. These activities include, but are not limited to, state or district recognition, participation in post-season all-star games or participation in individual competitions for which the student-athlete may be invited.

Student Participation Philosophy of Maumee Athletics

The school cannot force our young people to participate, but we can encourage them to participate in as many sports and activities as possible. The Athletic Department encourages our students to participate in as many sports and activities as they can handle and wants all of its coaches to encourage their athletes to get involved in multiple sports. Weightlifting programs, open gyms or other activities during the school year are beneficial to each program, but requiring athletes to attend such activities out of season is strictly forbidden. However, if a student-athlete is out-of-season, he/she must keep in mind the commitment to improve and the realization that attendance in non-mandatory programs will enhance their personal improvement and their possibilities for the upcoming seasons.

Academic Eligibility Requirements

A student must be currently enrolled in school and have received passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, in the immediately preceding grading period prior to participation in the activity. Furthermore, Maumee City Schools requires students to maintain a 1.50 grade point average (GPA) in order to be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics. Summer school grades may not be substituted for failing grades received in the final grading period of the preceding school year or for not having the required number of courses during that final grading period. Students taking post-secondary option school courses must also comply with the previously stated requirements. The responsibility for maintaining the required five-credit minimum falls upon the student-athlete and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). The athletic director and/or the student-athlete's guidance counselor may be consulted to make sure that requirements are maintained, however, our school offices assume no responsibility in making sure all requirements are maintained throughout the scheduling of classes.

A student ruled academically ineligible may not be permitted to participate with his/her desired team. This holds especially true for students desiring to participate in athletics during the fall and spring athletic seasons. The preceding grading periods for these seasons end

prior to the start of the season. Academically ineligible students are not permitted to practice or participate in fall or spring athletics. Students academically ineligible at the start of practices for winter athletic programs have the opportunity for participation upon review of the athletic department and guidance offices of Maumee Schools. However, students may not participate in athletic contests or scrimmages until grades have been submitted for the first trimester indicating that they are indeed academically eligible.

Weekly grades during the season of participation will be provided to coaches and team rules and policies will reflect appropriate consequences for failing to meet the established academic standard. Coaches may establish academic standards higher than the OHSAA minimum standards.

Academic Waiver of MHS Eligibility Requirements

In the event a student-athlete meets the OHSAA academic standard of passing five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, but fails to meet Maumee High School's 1.50 GPA requirement, the student-athlete may utilize an academic waiver to permit him/her to compete on a probationary basis for one grading period during grades nine and ten or one grading period during grades eleven and twelve. The academic waiver requires that the student-athlete have a minimum 1.00 GPA for their most recent grading period. The student-athlete, along with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), will meet with the athletic director. Signatures from the student-athlete, their parent(s)/guardian(s) and the athletic director are required for the academic waiver to be enacted.

Activity Fees

Students participating in an extracurricular activity will be assessed an activity fee to help offset the cost of transportation and operation of the program. The following fees will be assessed - \$100 for the first child of a family, \$75 for the second child, \$50 for the third child and a full waiver for any child thereafter.

The activity fee is charged to all students of Maumee Middle School and Maumee High School that choose to participate in an extracurricular activity. If a family has children attending both buildings, they will have the benefit of the price reduction listed above.

When paying for various fees or expenses, all checks should be made out to Maumee High School or Maumee Middle School (depending on the school they attend). Also, the memo portion of the check should note the purpose of the check – activity fee, lost equipment, etc. If the student-athlete is paying cash, a receipt will be issued stating the amount paid and the purpose for the payment. The responsibility for all fees, fines and expenses are solely that of the student-athlete and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). School records such as grade cards and transcripts will be held until payment of all commitments has been made to the Athletic Department.

All-Sports Passes

At this point, there will be no all-sports passes since we will not be charging for all spring sports. This is something we can revisit in the future if there is a need. We do, however, offer season passes.

Anti-Harassment General Policy Statement

The Maumee City Schools Board of Education and its Athletic Department maintain a policy (Bylaws and Policies - #3362) to ensure an educational and work environment that is free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment. This commitment applies to all district operations, programs and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff and other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging and reporting any form of unlawful harassment. This policy applies to unlawful conduct occurring on school property or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the Board or its Athletic Department.

The Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against harassment based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, disability or any other unlawful basis, and encourages those within the Maumee School District community as well as third parties who feel aggrieved to seek assistance to rectify the problems. The Board will investigate all allegations of harassment and in those cases where unlawful harassment is substantiated, the Board will take immediate steps to end the harassment. Individuals who are found to have engaged in unlawful harassment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

“Athlete in Good Standing” Policy

Any athlete who has been removed from the team for disciplinary reasons or has quit the team may not participate in the next sport's season until the **regular season** of the sport from which he/she quit or was disciplined is concluded. This includes any open gym, instructional session or weight training session that may be used for off-season conditioning for upcoming sports seasons. The student-athlete may be reinstated for participation provided the coaches of the two sports involved agree and the athletic director grants approval.

Furthermore, in-season athletes of OHSAA-sponsored or recognized sports will not be permitted to attend open gym or instructional sessions by coaches of out-of-season sports. In the event a student-athlete quits a sport, is removed from a team or does not finish his/her commitment to the sport as a result of academic ineligibility, he/she will not be able to participate in the open gyms or instructional sessions of other sports until the *regular season* of the sport is completed in which this occurred. For sports with a “no-cut” policy, a student-athlete may quit before the first official contest and not be penalized. For sports that have a defined tryout period, he/she cannot quit after the last tryout date. If he/she quits after the teams have been announced, they will be denied the privilege of off-season conditioning/weight training with their classmates and must meet with the A.D., coaching staff and parents to sign off.

Awards System for Maumee High School

In order for a student-athlete to be eligible for a post-season award, he/she **must**:

1. Have maintained his/her academic eligibility for the entire season based upon both OHSAA and local standards.
2. Been a member in good standing on the team at the conclusion of the season.
3. Attend the post-season awards ceremony unless excused by the coach, advisor or athletic director.

4. Have returned all equipment and uniforms associated with his/her participation in the sport/activity.
5. Have no outstanding obligations or fines for lost, stolen or damaged equipment or uniforms associated with his/her participation in the sport/activity.

The coach or advisor shall determine the award requirements of lettering for his/her sport/activity. These requirements shall be on file in the Athletic Office and approved by the athletic director. These standards shall be in compliance with guidelines outlined below as determined by the athletic director. Support personnel such as team managers, statisticians and scorekeepers shall fall under the umbrella of the Athletic Department and are eligible for awards as determined by the coach/advisor of the sport/activity. Furthermore, the coach/advisor retains the right to make exceptions from the normal standards when conditions or circumstances justify the issuance of an award. The athletic director must approve all exceptions to the minimum standards as presented by the coach/advisor of his/her sport/activity.

Below you will find a description of the various awards offered to student-athletes.

Numerals – Numerals will be presented to any first-year participant competing on a freshman, junior varsity or varsity team. The numerals will be granted depicting the year in which he/she will graduate. A participant may only be awarded one set of numerals in his/her athletic career at Maumee High School and will be presented after completion of his/her first athletic season.

Freshmen Certificate – The Freshmen Certificate will be presented to any participant that has competed on a freshmen team and has not met requirements for junior varsity or varsity consideration.

Junior Varsity Certificate – The Junior Varsity Certificate will be presented to any participant that has competed on a junior varsity team and has not met requirements for varsity consideration.

Participation Certificate – The Participation Certificate will be presented to any participant that has competed on a varsity team that has not met the requirements for lettering in that sport.

Varsity "M" Certificate – The Varsity "M" Certificate will be presented to any participant that has met the requirements for lettering as determined by his/her coach/advisor in that sport.

Varsity "M" Letter – The Varsity "M" Patch will be presented to any participant that meets the requirements for lettering as determined by his/her coach/advisor in that sport. A participant may only be awarded one Varsity "M" Patch in his/her athletic career at Maumee High School and will be awarded for their first lettering.

Gold Pins and Bars – Gold Bars and Pins will be presented to each participant that meets the requirements for lettering as determined by his/her coach/advisor in that sport. The Gold Pin will be issued for the first varsity letter received and Bars will be given each subsequent year for lettering in that sport/activity.

Varsity Team Awards – Each coach/advisor shall have at his/her discretion a set number of awards as determined by the athletic director to be issued at the post-season awards ceremony. The head coach and his/her staff are solely responsible for setting up requirements and criteria for these awards and shall determine the awards to be issued for the program – for example, Most Valuable Player, Coach's Award or Most Improved.

Special Awards – Special awards can be presented by the coach/advisor for special reasons. The athletic director shall approve these awards prior to presentation by the coach/advisor.

Special Recognition Awards – Special recognition awards can be presented by the Athletic Department for special acts of athletic achievement for individual and team accomplishments. The determination of presenting these awards shall be at the discretion of the athletic director.

Furthermore, the Maumee High School Athletic Department will issue the following awards:

Scholar Athlete Award – The Scholar Athlete Award will be awarded to any senior that has achieved a cumulative 3.00 GPA through the trimester prior to his/her participation in that sport/activity.

Fourth-Year Letter Award – The Fourth-Year Letter Award will be presented to any participant that letters in the same sport for a fourth year. A plaque or other appropriate award will be issued to these participants.

Conflicts with Extra-Curricular and School-Related Activities

The Maumee Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities, and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extra-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of conflict of obligations. Students have the responsibility to do everything in their power to avoid continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts seem inevitable. This also includes notifying coaches and advisors immediately when a conflict does arise.

When conflicts do arise, the sponsors, advisors and coaches will get together to work out a solution so the student is not left in the middle of the problematic situation. If a solution cannot be found, the building principal or his/her designee will have to make the decision based upon the following criteria: relative importance of each event, relative contributions the student can make to the event, length the event was scheduled and the desire of parents for their child.

A commitment that has a direct impact on the grade of a student-athlete (ex. concert that is figured into the student's band or choir grade) will take precedence over any extracurricular activity in which he/she will participate. The exception to this rule will be in the event an OHSAA-sponsored or recognized tournament contest is scheduled in which the school does not have any control over when the contest is being played – the student-athlete will make the decision in this situation with no fear of repercussions from the coach or sponsor.

Once the student makes a decision as it relates to the above paragraph, the sponsor, advisor or coach will not penalize the student-athlete as long as the decision is executed. In the event the student willingly did not execute the decision, he/she will be subject to disciplinary action by the offended coach or advisor. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill obligations of a school activity, he/she should consider withdrawing from that activity to prevent any problems that could arise.

Cutting Procedures

The goal of our Athletic Department is to have maximum participation in the offerings of the school; however, certain sports may need to limit numbers in order to manage practice and events efficiently and effectively. In the event that “cuts” need to be made, the coach and his staff shall have the sole determination of which participants are allowed to compete in his/her sport. These cuts should be made based on criteria as determined by the coach and should be based on a variety of the following – sports-related skills, academic and behavioral components. Safety of the student-athlete and his/her fellow competitors should always be considered when determining the qualifications and worthiness of an individual to represent Maumee City Schools in competition. Any questions resulting from cutting procedures for a specific athletic program should be addressed to the varsity coach or head coach of that program and/or the assistant coach of the team from which the student was cut.

Dietary Supplement Use Statement

The use of dietary supplements to improve or enhance athletic performance and/or gain or lose weight is strongly discouraged by the Maumee Athletic Department. Though use of these products are not strictly forbidden by state and federal law, use of these products does put the student-athlete at a greater risk for injury and has proven to be fatal in some cases. Our desire is to offer a safe and productive environment for our student-athletes to compete without placing the student-athlete at a risk of injury or even death.

Dual Sports Procedure for Maumee High School

In order for a student to qualify for dual participation he/she must meet the following criteria:

1. Must have declared his/her intent in writing to the athletic director two weeks prior to the official beginning of the earliest season.
2. Must have parental permission in writing.
3. Must have written acknowledgment of agreement from both coaches.
4. Must have the authorization of the athletic director before the season begins.
5. Must not participate in more than two sports in the same season.
6. Must declare, in writing, which sport will take precedence in the event of a conflict (declare a priority sport).
7. Must maintain a 2.0 GPA in the trimester prior to the season of participation.

The process operates in the following manner:

1. The student will obtain all information and procedures from the athletic office. Applications must be returned to the athletic office two weeks prior to the start of the earliest season. It will be the student’s responsibility to have all forms completed by the deadline.
2. Within one week of the student-athlete handing in the request form, the athletic director will meet with the two head coaches, the student-athlete involved and the parents of the student-athlete. From this meeting, a written contract stating the practice and game schedule for the upcoming season shall be drawn up and signed by both coaches, the student-athlete, the student-athlete’s parents/guardians and the athletic director of Maumee High School, with copies going to each.

3. Should a disagreement ensue between coaches over a student-athlete's participation, the two head coaches will meet before the athletic director who will serve as mediator and his/her decision, if necessary, will be binding.
4. If the student-athlete breaks his/her contract, he/she will forfeit any awards or recognition that would have been earned in the program. If the student-athlete earns a letter in both sports, he/she will be awarded a letter in each.

Both the student request form and agreement contract can be found in the back of this handbook.

Equipment Responsibilities

All school-issued equipment is the responsibility of the student-athlete to care and maintain during the athletic season. Loss, damage or theft of this equipment becomes the financial obligation of the student-athlete. He/she will be charged the replacement cost of the lost, damaged or stolen item(s). If equipment is not returned prior to the year-end awards program, any and all awards earned by the student-athlete will be withheld until such equipment is returned or restitution has been made to the school. Furthermore, the student-athlete is required to have a school-issued lock on all athletic lockers that may be issued to him/her for keeping equipment. The district reserves the right to search and inspect all lockers.

Under certain circumstances, equipment (for example, uniforms) may be sold to team members at the end of the season. The athletic director shall approve this sale at the request of the head coach. The athletic director will charge the *replacement cost* of the item if the student-athlete desires to purchase the item. The head coach will collect the payment – checks should be made to the Maumee Athletic Department. Equipment will not be dispersed until payment has been received for the equipment.

Facility Usage by Student-Athletes

Student-athletes are not permitted to use athletic facilities such as the weight room, training room or gymnasium areas, without the direct supervision of a coach or trainer. Furthermore, student-athletes should only be in authorized areas as determined by the coach and administration. During practice times or contests, the academic wing of the building is off-limits unless a coach or administrator supervises the student-athlete(s). Violation of these policies is considered a major safety violation and will result in disciplinary action for the student-athlete for being in an unauthorized area.

In addition, student-athletes will not monitor or block doors for others to gain access to the facility without permission. Student-athletes should leave the facility as soon as possible after the practice or athletic contest is completed and make sure that lockers and other areas of use are secure behind him/her when leaving. The ultimate responsibility for facility safety falls upon the coach and administration, but the student-athlete should take an active role in making sure the building is secure from outside sources for his/her safety and well-being. Safety is a concern for everyone and should always be a point of emphasis.

Forms for Participation

All student-athletes must complete the registration process on *FinalForms* prior to his/her competition in athletics:

1. OHSAA Pre-Participation Physical Form
2. Emergency Medical Authorization Form
3. Maumee High School or Maumee Middle School Extracurricular Participation Checklist (*includes acknowledgement of warning, consent for participation, insurance verification, code of conduct, equipment contract*)
4. Ohio Department of Health Concussion Info. Acknowledgement Sheet
5. Sudden Cardiac Arrest (Lindsay's Law)
6. Consent for Treatment by Athletic Training Staff and Team Physicians
7. Transportation Release Form

The OHSAA Pre-Participation Physical is valid for 13 months commencing on the date of the signed physical examination. A pre-participation physical scheduled between May 1st and June 1st will be valid for 13 months from the date of the exam plus the remainder of the ensuing school year. The Emergency Medical Authorization Form is required in the event emergency treatment is necessary for the student-athlete. If changes occur during the school year such as a change in physicians, addresses, phone numbers or medical history, the student's *FinalForms* account must be updated.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member or other employee of the District shall encourage, permit, condone or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including student leaders of organizations shall plan, encourage or engage in hazing activities.

Administrators, faculty members, students or other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in compliance with Ohio Revised Code. All suspected hazing incidents regarding athletics should be reported immediately to the athletic director.

Injury Procedures

In the event of an injury, coaches are trained to administer basic first aid if applicable. Athletic trainers will be available at most contests to assist coaches in the care and maintenance of injuries. The coaching staff will notify our school's athletic training staff of the injury situation as soon as possible. If a trainer is unavailable, which is possible at the middle school with no full-time trainer on staff, the following steps need to be taken:

1. Call 9-1-1 if the injury is severe enough that the safety and well being of the student is at stake.

2. If not, contact the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to advise him/her of the situation.
3. Fill out an Accident/Incident Report as soon as possible after the injury to document the occurrence of the injury.

The school has an obligation for the safety and well being of each student-athlete. When in doubt, the school will always make decisions with every effort of caution for the student-athlete.

If a student-athlete receives medical attention from a physician, the physician must release the student-athlete from his/her care in writing before being released back into competition. The athletic trainer and/or coach must receive this release before the student-athlete can return to active competition. The athletic director must be advised of the situation. **No exceptions will be granted on this policy!**

Letter Jacket Policy for Maumee High School

The Maumee Athletic Department believes that the awards earned should be worn with dignity and class. Any athlete that wins a Varsity "M" Patch will be eligible to purchase a letter jacket to display this award. Athletes are to display their awards in the appropriate manner on this jacket and are expected to behave in a dignified and acceptable way whether or not they are wearing the jacket. The student-athlete will represent Maumee High School proudly and any action during school or at school-related activities that detracts from the positive image of the school will not be accepted. This will result in disciplinary action against the offending individual and possible loss of future awards.

Locker Policy

Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.20 authorizes our board of Education to adopt a policy that allows an administrator to search any student's locker, and the contents thereof, upon reasonable suspicion that the contents contain evidence of a criminal or school rule violation. Lockers remain the property of the Maumee City School District while on loan to students; therefore, those lockers are subject to supervision and inspection by school authorities when and where necessary. The student-athlete has the responsibility to use lockers for school purposes only. Lockers are not to be used for articles that may be of such nature as to be harmful, dangerous, in violation of school or legal restrictions or disruptive to the school process. Such articles are subject to confiscation.

Students are not permitted to mark or deface the outside of lockers in any manner. In such cases, the student-athlete in violation of this policy will be assessed a fine for the maintenance and repair of any damage to the locker. Furthermore, securing of all personal items is the responsibility of the student-athlete and all personal items including, but not limited to, clothing and backpacks need to be placed in a locker. Lockers are to be locked at all times the student-athlete is away from his/her locker.

Outstanding Financial or Equipment Obligations of Student-Athletes

Any student-athlete that has an outstanding financial or equipment obligation shall have all post-season awards and pertinent student records (ex. report card or transcripts) withheld until such obligation is completed. In addition, the student-athlete shall not be permitted to try out for any other sports or join extracurricular clubs until such obligation is completed. The coach should complete the Outstanding Equipment/Uniform Inventory in the

Athletic Season Summary and turn it in to the Athletic Office immediately at the conclusion of the season.

Parent Concern Procedure

In the event a parent needs to file a complaint or deal with a problem/question involving the student-athlete's involvement in an extracurricular program, the following chain of command should be followed:

1. Assistant Coach
2. Head Coach
3. Athletic Director
4. Assistant Principal
5. Principal
6. Superintendent
7. Board of Education

Every effort will be made to deal with the complaint in a timely, professional manner. With few exceptions, the coach or assistant coach should receive the first contact when a complaint or question is lodged. Complaints regarding playing time or coaching philosophy will not be addressed as those decisions rest solely with the coach and/or assistant coach. In the event a satisfactory conclusion does not result in the initial contact, a meeting may be requested with the athletic director with the coach present to deal with any unresolved issues. If the safety and well-being of the student-athlete is in question, the complaint may be lodged with the administration and a determination will be made as to what procedure will need to be followed.

Parent Volunteers

In the event parent volunteers are needed to assist in bus supervision issues or other school-related activities with athletics, these individuals need to be approved by our Board of Education. The individual must go through BCII and FBI checks prior to performing any duties in this capacity. The cost of the BCII and FBI checks shall fall upon the individuals unless the athletic director gives prior approval for the need of the volunteer to the coach.

Parking for After-School Activities for Maumee High School Students

Students are prohibited from parking in unauthorized areas for after-school practices or activities. Any vehicle found parked in an unauthorized space or fire lane will have their driving privileges to school revoked for a period of time and may have their vehicle ticketed and/or towed off school premises. Continual abuse of parking privileges may result in the revocation of all driving privileges to Maumee High School.

Participation Policy for Attendance of Student-Athletes

The policy of Maumee High School is that all student-athletes participating in an athletic program must attend at least **three periods** of a school day in order to participate in an athletic contest, scrimmage, practice or other activity associated with the athletic program. Maumee Middle School students must at least attend **four periods**. In the event a student-athlete is absent on Friday prior to a weekend contest, he/she will not be permitted to participate in any weekend contest, scrimmage, practice or activity associated with his/her

participation in the sport or activity. The building principal or his/her designee has the sole authority to grant exceptions to this policy.

In addition, a suspension of a student-athlete from school will carry over into denial of participation for the same length of time in extracurricular activities – he/she will miss all contests, scrimmages, practices or activities for the length of time of the school suspension, including all weekend activities if the suspension includes a weekend. **No exceptions will be made.**

Furthermore, all student-athletes are expected to attend all contests, scrimmages, practices, events and activities associated with participation in the Maumee Athletic Program. Vacations are not encouraged during the athletic season. Missed practices and contests will be addressed in the coach's individual team rules and violations will be addressed in accordance with that policy. In the event of chronic, unexcused absences from contests, scrimmages, practices or school, the athletic director reserves the right to intercede and deny participation of a student-athlete for a period of time until said student-athlete can prove he/she is willing to conform with the rules and ideals of the Maumee Athletic Department.

Policy for Player Ejections from Athletic Contests

By adoption of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, any student-athlete ejected from an interscholastic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until **two** regular season and/or tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (**one** contest for football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student-athlete shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student-athlete participates. A student-athlete under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s).

A student-athlete who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student-athlete who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in the season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time and/or number of contests subject to the discretion of the Commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student participates.

The responsibility for enforcement of this regulation falls upon the local school authorities. In accordance with OHSAA Bylaw 8-3-1, the decisions of contest officials are final and are not subject to appeal.

Policy on the Use of Steroids/Performance Enhancing Drugs

In accordance with OHSAA policy as well as federal law, the use of steroids and other illegal performance enhancing drugs is not permitted. Further, student-athletes found in violation of this policy are in direct violation with the Athletic Code of Conduct and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Random Drug Testing

In accordance with Maumee City Schools Policy 5530.01, random drug testing is limited to students who participate in athletic programs, extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities that have a competition aspect; voluntary opt-in participants; and those who apply

for or hold a parking permit at Maumee High School. The policy is built around the principles of prevention, intervention and treatment. The goal is to encourage students to stay away from drugs and/or alcohol and to provide intervention and treatment for those who have already started. There are no academic consequences for a “positive” test result, but there are consequences as outlined in the Athletic/Extracurricular/Co-Curricular Activity Code of Conduct.

School Cancellation Policy

In case of a school cancellation due to inclement weather, high school athletic contests that are scheduled for that evening may still be played. The decision will be made by 1:00 pm as to the status of the contest. Coaches will be notified and are strongly encouraged to create a “phone tree” to help in notifying players and parents of the status of contests and practices. On cancellation days, practices may not begin before 12:00 pm and may not be mandatory. The coach is required to contact the athletic director to find out if all school activities have been cancelled or a delay may occur to necessitate the removal of snow and ice from the school parking lots.

Social Media Expectations

Maumee Schools recognizes and supports its student-athletes’ rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. In this context, each student-athlete must remember that participating and competing for Maumee Schools is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes represent their high school and the Maumee City School District, and therefore, they are expected to portray themselves, their team, and their high school in a positive manner at all times. Any online postings must be consistent with federal and state laws, as well as school, team, and district rules and regulations (including those listed below).

Specifically prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to:

- Use, sharing or reposting of sexually explicit, profane, lewd, indecent, illegal, or defamatory language/actions.
- Use of derogatory language regarding school personnel or other students.
- Posting, sharing or reposting of comments designed to harass or bully students and/or school personnel.
- Posting or sharing nude, sexually-oriented, or indecent photos, images or altered pictures.
- Postings that evidence or suggest possession/use of prescription drugs (without a lawful prescription), non-prescription drug (for non-medical use), alcoholic beverage, counterfeit drug, tobacco or tobacco product and/or related paraphernalia

Also prohibited are all on-campus connections to off-campus violations of the policy.

- Use of school computers to view off-campus prohibited postings.
- Students accessing prohibited posts at school on their own devices.
- Distribution of hard copies of prohibited posts on school property.
- Re-communication on campus of the content of the prohibited posts.

Spectator Code of Conduct - Maumee City Schools

- Section 1 Spectators are an important part of the game and shall at all times conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
- Section 2 Spectators shall at all times respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them.
- Section 3 Wholesome cheering is encouraged.
- Section 4 Taunting, foul and abusive language, inflammatory remarks, and disrespectful behavior are not acceptable.
- Section 5 Spectators shall respect and obey all school administrators, staff and police at all athletic contests.
- Section 6 At no time during a contest are spectators allowed on the playing surface unless directed by a school administrator.
- Section 7 Should a spectator be removed from a contest for any behavior deemed inappropriate, the punishment shall be the following:
- 1st Ejection: A minimum 2 game suspension (may be longer if deemed necessary by the school administration). The offender cannot attend at least 2 games of the sport ejected from and all other sporting events during that time period. The offender must schedule a conference with the athletic director and the principal to discuss their inappropriate behavior and discuss a plan to improve said behavior. Any further ejections from any other sporting events will result in the schools administration determining further consequences with the offender.
- Section 8 The school administration can evaluate each incident and extend the suspension lengths mentioned above but cannot shorten the suspension.

Sportsmanship Expectations

Players: Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of the spectators and fans. Players should represent Maumee City Schools in a positive fashion and represent themselves on the field or court of competition in the same light. Players will:

1. Participate in athletics at Maumee Schools because he/she wants to, not just because parents or coaches may want them to compete.
2. Compete by the rules and in the spirit of the game in accordance with all local and state expectations of fairness and sportsmanship.
3. Respect his/her opponents before, during and after competition and at all times show good sportsmanship. This would include shaking hands with opponents and wishing them a good game when appropriate.
4. Accept the judgment of the officials as just that, the best judgment they could make given what they know and see. This would include never arguing or make gestures indicating lack of respect for the officials or opponents at any time.
5. Do his/her best to try to be a true team player and support his/her teammates at all times during the season.
6. Remember that winning is not everything. The student-athlete must recognize that the benefits of competition include having fun, improving skills, making lasting friendships and the pride in doing their performing to the best of their ability.

7. Acknowledge all good plays or performances by his/her teammates and opponents as well as carry themselves with dignity and class at the conclusion of all contests whether in victory or defeat.
8. Remember that the coach and the official are there to assist him/her and at all times show them the respect they deserve.
9. Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the Maumee City School District and the community as a whole.

Fans and Spectators: Athletics is an incredible experience to have for all individuals that have the privilege of participating – athletes, coaches, fans, spectators and parents. Unruly, unsportsmanlike and objectionable behavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate removal from the contest. These contests are for the student-athletes to display their skills and compete in a sportsmanlike environment against our opponents, not a display for the fans. With these ideals in mind, fans and spectators will:

1. Remember that these are young men and women competing for their enjoyment, not paid professionals expected to entertain.
2. Not have unrealistic expectations and understand that the athletes competing at their best is more important than winning the contest.
3. Understand that ridiculing a student-athlete for making a mistake is unacceptable behavior.
4. Respect all decisions made by the officials and will encourage all participants and fans to do the same.
5. Show respect and appreciation for the job the coach is doing for the student-athlete and understand that he/she has given up his/her time to provide for the betterment of our young people.
6. Encourage all participants and coaches to follow and abide by the rules and avoid conflict or hostility toward the opponent.
7. Show respect to our opponent and their guests at all times since there would not be a contest without them.
8. Not use abusive or obscene language directed toward any individual at the contest as well as not harass the athletes, coaches, spectators or officials.
9. Always show good sportsmanship and demonstrate positive behavior at all times during the contest.

Sportsmanship Philosophy and Guidelines

The Maumee Athletic Department believes that interscholastic competition, involving member schools of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, should be governed by the basic principles of good sportsmanship. This document has been prepared to ensure that all participants have a common understanding of those basic principles. The Maumee Athletic Department believes that participation is extremely important and student-athletes should be coached to play to the best of their ability as well as play with honor, class and dignity that represents the school in a positive light. The promotion of good sportsmanship is the obligation of all school personnel – administration, coaching staff and players – and the fans and spectators are expected to hold these ideals high. Therefore, the Maumee Athletic Department expects all players, fans, cheerleaders, coaches and administrators to embrace the following fundamentals of good sportsmanship:

- a. Respect should be demonstrated for an athletic opponent and for their school at all times. Maumee should treat visiting teams and

- their supporters as guests, and accord them the consideration all human beings deserve. When visiting the opponent's schools, respect should be shown for their property.
- b. Respect should be demonstrated for the officials at all times. Officials are impartial arbiters who are trained to do their job and are doing their job to the best of their ability. Their decisions are final and nothing can be done to change them.
 - c. Knowledge of, and a proper respect for, the current rules of the contest should guide the behavior of all participants. Rules are essential for a fair contest. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the "letter" of the rules.
 - d. All participants strive to play to the best of their ability and the desire to win should not be accepted as a reason for abandoning rational behavior. All must maintain a proper perspective if the potential educational value of high school competition is to be realized.
 - e. All participants should learn to recognize and appreciate skill in performance, regardless of affiliation. In order for good sportsmanship to prevail, all participants should understand their individual responsibilities and expected modes of behavior before, during and after contests.

Supplemental Training Rules

Discipline and self-control are necessary components of participating in extracurricular athletics and activities and an important aspect of competing in a team environment. Students involved in such activities have a responsibility to conduct themselves in such a manner to be a credit to Maumee Schools and that the conduct is acceptable to the expectations and standards set forth by the activity's coach or advisor. Furthermore, our student-athletes are viewed as role models for younger students in our district and community as a whole and have an additional responsibility to act as such. Student-athletes are subject to supplemental training rules as determined by their coach. Copies of these supplemental training rules will be placed on file in the Athletic Office and made available upon the request of a parent/guardian.

Transgender Participation Policy

Maumee Schools, as a voluntary member of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, agrees to abide by the OHSAA's policy considerations and policy relating to transgender student athlete participation. The *Transgender Policy* can be found on the OHSAA website, www.ohsaa.org, and is also available by request from the Athletic/Activities Office.

Transportation Procedures

Students participating in interscholastic athletic activities associated with an athletic team or activity are required to ride district transportation to and from all events (Bylaws and Policies - #8640). A Transportation Release Form must be on file with the coach prior to the first scrimmage, contest or off-site practice in which the student-athlete is to be transported.

Parents are permitted to transport student-athletes to and from contests by state law, but Athletic Department policy is that our student-athletes should ride to and from all scrimmages, contests and off-site practices on the school-provided transportation.

In the event a student-athlete must ride from a scrimmage, contest or off-site practice with his/her parents after arriving at the site via district transportation, the student-athlete must have the authorized form signed by his/her parents documenting the reason for departure and written confirmation from the athletic director. The form must be presented to the coach or advisor at least twenty-four hours prior to the departure of the team for the event. An example of this form is located in the back of this handbook. In extenuating circumstances, such as, but not limited to, family emergency or unexpected illness, the coach may grant permission to parents to transport their son/daughter as long as the coach or his/her designee witness the departure from the facility or a note is given to the coach prior to departure from the venue.

Websites

All tournament information and sports regulations are posted at www.ohsaa.org as well as the Northwest District Athletic Board website, www.nwdab.org. The head coach, student-athlete and parent/guardian should look up the information for his/her tournament series and become familiar with the guidelines and regulations of his/her sport through this website. Specific questions may be directed to the building principal or athletic director if necessary. In addition to these sites, Maumee Schools utilizes www.arbiterlive.com for all of its on-line schedules and www.maumeepanthers.org for all other information related to participation in a sport program. Parents/guardians are encouraged to bookmark these sites and refer to them frequently for updates and changes.