

L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

EXTRACURRICULAR & ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

B.O.E. Approved: July 18, 2016



L'Anse Jr/Sr High School

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Extracurricular & Athletic Code

Academic Eligibility

The Board of Education promotes the academic success of all students regardless of extracurricular involvement. We believe that participation in extracurricular activities can be a valuable component of a student's high school education. We also believe that academics come first and extracurricular activities are meant to enrich a student's education. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities. The intent of this policy is to promote a student's academic success while supporting the benefits of the extracurricular experience. Extracurricular activities include those activities that have no grade component to a class, including but not limited to, sports teams, academic teams, cheerleading and clubs.

Previous Semester Record

Per MHSAA regulation, students must have received credit in the prior semester for at least 25 credit hours of work (five classes) to be eligible the following semester (fall semester to be eligible for the spring semester and spring to be eligible for the following fall, etc.). If a student is ineligible due to this requirement, they remain ineligible for the entire next semester. A student entering 9th grade for the first time may participate without reference to their 8th grade records.

Current Semester Record/Weekly Eligibility

Per MHSAA regulation, students must be passing at least twenty (25) credit hours (five classes) at the time of an eligibility check. If the student is not passing twenty (25) credit hours, the student is ineligible for competition until the next check.

Eligibility is checked on a week-to-week basis. The Jr/Sr High Office will initiate the check on Thursday of each week. A letter will be sent out on Friday to inform the student, parent, and coach of ineligibility. The ineligibility period will begin Monday morning and end Sunday evening of the following week. Weekly eligibility checks begin with the third week of each marking period and continue through the eighth week of the marking period.

During the period of ineligibility a student may not take part in any formal competition. A student will be **allowed** to practice and take part in all team activities that do not require them to miss school, **unless it is determined to be in the best interest of the student to attend tutoring**. For student's belonging to non-competitive organizations, they will be excluded from participation during ineligibility. Students who are ineligible will not be permitted to travel if they will miss any school.

Seasons of Competition

Athletes are allowed to participate in one (1) interscholastic sport per athletic season unless an athlete completes a dual participation form. The maximum number of sports an athlete may participate in per school year is three (3). According to MHSAA regulation, an athlete may not have more than four (4) first and four (4) second semester seasons of competition. If a student who is enrolled in grades nine through twelve is ruled ineligible for any reason for one or more semesters, those semesters count as semesters of competition. Additionally, student athletes must not have been enrolled for more than eight semesters in grades nine through twelve inclusive.

Absences

Students are expected to be in class as part of the learning experience. It is the student's responsibility to ask in advance for assignments and make up all work if class is missed because of a sanctioned practice or extracurricular contest/function. Students are responsible for making up missed work on their own time, not during class time.

Away Events

During away events, students **MAY** be given a sanctioned absence the next morning if the group arrives home exceptionally late. This is at the discretion of the individual coach/advisor, but will not exceed the times below:

After 12:00 AM	-first hour
After 1:00 AM	-first and second hours
After 2:00 AM	-First, second and third hours, etc...

Absences will not be sanctioned if students are absent for more than the allowed class time.

Excused Absences

Students **MUST** be in attendance to practice, play or participate in athletic contests that day. If students are absent from school and it is determined that they practiced, played or participated that day, they will be suspended from the next competition. An exception would be made if the student has an approved medical appointment and provides documentation from the medical office indicating the location and time of the appointment. Student should attend as much of the school day as possible before or after the appointment allowing for adequate travel time. An exception will not be granted for an appointment due to current illness. If a student is sick for any portion of the day, they cannot participate in athletic contests that day. The Principal or Athletic Director must approve any exceptions to this rule.

Unexcused Absences

L'Anse Area Schools has a **ZERO** tolerance policy on unexcused absences. If a student skips even one class during the school day, they will be suspended from their next competition. Suspension from school is considered an unexcused absence. **If a student is suspended from school during the athletic season, they will also be suspended from the next competition.**

Physical Exam

A physical form must be on file with the Athletic Director in order for a student to participate in athletics. The physician, parent, and a student must sign the form. Insurance obligations are the sole responsibility of the athlete and his/her parents.

Pay to Participate

Many extra-curricular activities have fees that are payable by the participant. Advisors will inform parents of these amounts. All students who play sports will be required to pay an athletic fee. High School students will pay \$75 for each sport played with a maximum of \$150 per student. Junior High students will pay \$50 per sport with a maximum of \$100 per student. There is a family maximum of \$375. Pay to participate fees must be paid in full before the student will be placed on the team roster. Fees will be collected in the **Central** Office during regular office hours. Fees are not refundable.

Parent Consent Form

No student shall participate unless the parent consent form has been signed and filed with the Athletic Director or Principal.

Transportation

Students must ride the school provided transportation to and from the event. A request by the parent may be made in writing or in person to the coach or Athletic Director (Principal or supervisor for all other extracurricular activities) should other transportation be necessary.

Illegal Substances

Students shall not possess, use, sell, distribute or otherwise provide alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illicit drugs, including anabolic steroids and look-alike drugs. Violations may be reported by the following: All coaches, advisors, teachers and administrators of the L'Anse Area Schools and by law enforcement officers and parents of athletes involved, upon knowledge of a violation, must provide a statement as to the date and place of violation and given to the athletic director/principal. The student will be informed of the violation, penalty, policy and hearing procedures. The penalty for violating this regulation may include, but is not limited to the following:

1. First Offense: Suspension from participation in all scheduled activities for 25% of the activity.
2. Second Offense: Suspension from participation in all scheduled activities for the remainder of the year.
3. Third Offense: OUT – Suspension from participation in all scheduled activities for your high school career.

Criminal Activity

Students shall not be involved in any criminal activity. The school district may take action with regard to student conduct regardless of whether or not the court system imposes a penalty. First Offense: Up to and including suspension from all extracurricular activities for one year from the date the penalty is imposed. Second Offense: Up to and including permanent loss of eligibility.

Conduct

An athlete whose attitude or actions in school, out of school, or while participating in athletics (in the school's judgment) is detrimental to the philosophy of the athletic program may be assigned additional disciplinary action and/or ineligibility.

Coach / Advisor Expectations

Coaches and other extracurricular advisors may establish rules governing student behavior that may be in addition to, but not instead of the rules outlined in the code, or any other code of conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Practice Schedules

Practice schedules will be determined by the coach and athletic director. One weekend day off is mandatory. Sunday practices will be permitted under special circumstances and approved by the athletic director. Practices on Sunday will be scheduled no earlier than 2:00 p.m. and not after 8:00 p.m. Any participant having a Sunday obligation will be excused with no repercussions or retaliation.

Dual Sport Participation (Two Sports in the Same Season)

There exist circumstances in which it may be in the best interest of both a particular team and individual athlete to allow participation on more than one athletic team during a particular season. This would allow individual athletes an opportunity to excel in activities that will help both them and others to grow and develop physically, socially, and emotionally while, at the same time helping the overall growth, development and success of the entire team.

A parent/guardian of a student who wishes to participate in two sports should request a meeting with the student, the coaches of both sports, and the Athletic Director to discuss these wishes and review the following:

- A written contract will be established wherein all the above named parties may agree upon training and performance requirements concerning the games and practices.
- The athlete must choose his/her primary sport and would be expected to attend all practices and contests of the primary sport.
- The athlete will only be able to participate in the secondary sport when there is not a conflict with primary sport activities. Potential conflicts will be resolved by the parties involved and included in the contract.
- The athlete would be expected to abide by all team rules for both sports, unless mutually agreed upon.
- If the athlete fails to comply with any of the agreed upon criteria, the athlete will no longer be eligible to participate in the secondary sport.

If you are interested in participating in two sports during the same season review the expectations on the following page and return the page with the required signatures to the athlete director.

L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

High School athletes who wish to play two sports in the same season:

1. Must declare which of the sports is his/her primary sport
 - a. Contest of the primary sport will take priority over the secondary sport.
 - b. After conferring with the coach of the secondary sport, the coach of the primary sport will provide the athlete of the secondary sport coach with the schedule of practices and events the athlete will attend.
 - c. Approval of a parent is needed for the athlete to participate in two sports.
2. The coaches of both sports involved must give their approval before participation begins:
 - a. Approval is to be written and signed by the coaches, student athlete, parent (s), and athletic director.
3. An athlete who is removed from a team due to disciplinary reasons will also be removed from any other team they are participating on.
4. An athlete who quits a team will not be allowed to participate in two same season sports for the remainder of their career at L'Anse Jr/Sr High School.
5. An athlete who violates training rules of becomes academically ineligible will have suspension/penalty for both sports.
6. In the event of a bussing conflict, the parent/guardian of the student/athlete is responsible for transportation to the athletic event.
7. Requirements for participation in events for dual sport athletes are to be determined by the coach and should be consistent with requirement set for the other team members. (For example, if you miss practice, you don't start.)
8. The coach of the primary sport has the final say on any questions or concerns.
9. Requirements for awarding letters and awards for dual sport athletes are to be determined by the coach of each sport.
10. Decisions of the primary coach are final. There are no appeals.
11. It may be necessary for a dual sport athlete who fails to fully comply with the terms of this agreement to meet with a committee composed of the athletic director, high school principal, the primary coach, and the secondary coach to explain his/her reason (s) for non-compliance. It will be the responsibility of the committee to decide if there should be any consequences for non-compliance. If the committee decides there should be consequences it is the duty of the committee determine the consequence (s).

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that we have and understand the rules and regulation for Dual Sport, Same Season participation and agree to full compliance for the season specified below:

Season: Fall Winter Spring Year_____

Primary Sport: _____ Secondary Sport: _____

Student Name: _____ Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Primary Coach: _____ Secondary Coach: _____

Athletic Director: _____ Date: _____

L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE & PERMISSION FOR ATHLETIC COMPTITION

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S CONSENT

While academics come first, participation in extracurricular activities can have a lasting positive influence on a student's education and life. Please be aware that participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities.

Occasionally, parents will be responsible for transporting their student athlete to or from local contests when school transportation is not provided.

We have read and fully understand L'Anse Area Schools athletic policies concerning the conditions, which will govern all students who participate in L'Anse athletics. We will do ur best to see that our son/daughter abides by all of the rules and regulations as long as he/she desires to participate in athletics.

Please sign and return this consent from to the principal's office. Athletes must also have a signed physical card on file prior to participating in any sport.

I have read the extracurricular participation code and fully understand my responsibilities.

_____	_____	_____
Parent (<i>Print</i>) Name	Parent Signature	Date

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and fully understand L'Anse Area Schools athletic policies concerning the conditions, which will govern all students who participate in L'Anse athletics. I do hereby accept the responsibility to uphold all rules and regulations so long as I desire to participate in athletics.

_____	_____	_____
Student (<i>Print</i>) Name	Student Signature	Date