

ATHLETICS POLICY

PHILOSOPHY

The primary purpose of extracurricular activities at Old Orchard Beach High School is to contribute to the overall development of the student in concert with the school's philosophy and objectives. Participation in any activity as a representative of one's school and community involves certain responsibilities to the school and the community.

All students participating in activities do so voluntarily and are expected to adhere to certain standards commonly accepted as promoting health bodies and minds. Students who choose to participate are expected and are presumed to understand and accept their responsibility as a condition of their participation.

ELIGIBILITY

The Old Orchard Beach High School Eligibility Policy is unique, containing a strong academic component blended with a fair and reasonable practice and participation schedule. The student remains accountable for his/her actions both in the classroom and while practicing in the activity.

The Activities Program is open to all regularly enrolled students at Old Orchard Beach High School who meet the following requirements:

- A student must carry at least six (6) full credits per quarter.
- Initial eligibility is based on the previous quarter grades and the required six (6) credits in that quarter for participation.
- Athletes must pass 4 subjects. (State Requirement)
- If an athlete fails one subject but still complies with #3, the athlete will be allowed to play with no restrictions.

PROBATIONARY STATUS

A student will be placed on probation for an entire quarter under the following circumstances:

1. If an athlete fails two (2) courses, but still complies with #3, that student will be allowed to practice, but will not be allowed to play in a game or match for one half of the season. At that point, the athlete's grades will be checked in all subjects. If the athlete is passing in ALL of their classes, they will be able to join the team as an active participant. If the athlete is failing any of their classes, they will not be allowed to participate in any capacity.
2. Incompletes will be treated as follows:
 - If a student receives an incomplete and has earned a passing grade (70 or above) at the time the incomplete was issued, he/she will be considered passing that class until the incomplete work is made up. At that time, the resulting grade will be final.
 - If a student receives an incomplete and has earned a failing grade (69 or lower) at the time the incomplete was issued, he/she will be considered failing that class until the incomplete work is made up. At that time, the resulting grade will be final.
 - All athletes in question will receive a progress report.

- If an athlete fails more than two subjects, they will not be allowed to participate in any capacity with a team, regardless if they comply with #3 or not.
- A subject failed during the fourth quarter can be taken in summer school and made up for credit.
 - ~ Summer School courses will be allowed for credit if the following conditions are met:
 - ~ The course is used only to replace a course that the student has completed with a failing grade, no lower than a 60
 - ~ The instructor of the failed course makes or supports a recommendation for summer schooling, and
 - ~ Arrangements are made through the Guidance office prior to the commencement of the summer school course.

3. May be removed--up for discussion...

- If the Principal and the Athletic Director determine that a hardship exists due to size and experience of a squad which, could affect the safety of the participating team member, probationary students will then miss equal number of games but at the discretion of the Principal and the Athletic Director.

The intent of the Eligibility Section of the Eligibility Policy is to ensure that participation in extra curricular activities is not interfering with satisfactory progress in academic subjects. Fourth quarter grades will be reviewed to determine participation in the fall.

In addition, the following condition must be met before a student may try out for a team:

1. A signed statement by parent/guardian which:
 - gives permission for a student participation in the program
 - acknowledge and understanding of school eligibility policy and training rules.
 - provides proof of medical insurance and emergency card.
2. The student has received a physical examination within the last two years.

CODE

Participation in activities is a privilege, not a right. Any violation of the law, on or off school grounds, is a reflection of team, school, and the community and will result in disciplinary action. Therefore:

1. The use/possession of any tobacco products, drugs, or alcohol by a student involved in any activity is strictly prohibited. (See p. 16-19 for disciplinary action)
2. Violations of the following nature may result in the student's ineligibility for a period of time:

- being a consistent or serious disciplinary problem in school
 - vulgar or abusive language directed towards a team member, opponent, official or coach
 - the accusation of theft, vandalism, or possession of stolen property
3. Additional Rules: Students will be given a copy of any rules issued by the coach in a parent/athlete contract.

A recurrence of any disciplinary infraction may result in the athlete being removed from the squad for the remainder of the season. The Principal and the Athletic Director will make a review and decision on these matters.

REGULATIONS

1. It is further understood that students absent from school the day of an activity shall not participate without an excused absence and/or full sanction of the Principal.
2. All squad members must travel with the team unless there are extenuating circumstance. They will be excused to the custody of a parent/guardian by the coach with prior approval of administration.
3. No equipment or uniforms shall be worn except when participating in a sport unless the Athletic Director has granted permission.
4. Students suspended from school shall not be allowed to practice or participate in contests while on suspension.
5. Students should be aware that they are representing Old Orchard Beach High School, and shall act and dress accordingly. Each group may have its own parent/athlete contract and "day of activity" and traveling code requirements, as long as each group dresses cleanly, neatly, and in good taste.
6. Nothing in this policy is intended to prevent a coach/advisor from suspending a participant for reasons other than those listed above. (Infractions (Including but not limited to): skipping practice, poor sportsmanship, breaking curfew, accusation of a felony or misdemeanor, attends a party where alcohol/drugs are present or host a party where alcohol/drugs are present). These infractions will be considered an offense of the Drug/Alcohol policy. Repeated infractions of regulations may result in removal from the activity for the remainder of the season.
7. Students must be present in school for half of the day in order to participate in extra-curricular activities. Exceptions to this policy are an excused absence or the discretion of the Athletic Director or his designee. Any excused absences may be questioned and appointment slips may be required if it becomes excessive (more than 3 times).

APPLICATION

When violations of the code occur and are brought to the attention of the advisor, coach, Athletic/Music Director, Assistant Principal, or Principal, the following process will be implemented:

1. A determination of the facts of the violation will be made by the Athletic/Music Director or an administrator.

2. If the facts indicate that a violation did occur, the student and his or her parents will be notified that the student is to be suspended from participation pending a review of the situation.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS & DRUGS & ALCOHOL USE/POSSESSION

(See School Drug and Alcohol Policy, pg. 10-12)

A student who participates in any extra-curricular activities agrees to refrain from the use of tobacco products, drugs and alcohol during the entire school year. Any student violating this rule will be dealt with as follows:

- ⇒ 1st Offense: The student is suspended from all activities for seven (7) days or one (1) week which must include at least one contest and he/she must participate in the Substance Abuse Awareness Program. *This suspension will be in effect regardless of the date of the incident between the start of the fall sports in August and the last day of school in June.*
- ⇒ 2nd Offense: The student is suspended from the activity for 11 weeks. The student will continue to participate in the Substance Abuse Awareness Program before participating in another activity.
- ⇒ 3rd Offense: The student is suspended from any activities for 12 months unless the student participates in an outside structured Substance Abuse Awareness Program approved by a committee. Upon successful completion of this outside structured Substance Abuse Awareness Program, a committee will review the individual's case.

SELLING/FURNISHING

(See School Drug and Alcohol Policy)

A student who participates in Athletics and/or Band and is involved in the selling or furnishing of drugs will be dealt with as follows:

- ⇒ 1st Offense: The student is suspended from the activity for 11 weeks, and he/she must participate in the Substance Abuse Awareness Program before participating in any other activity.
- ⇒ 2nd Offense: The student is suspended from any activities for 12 months and recommended to participate in a Substance Abuse Treatment Program.

SELF-REFERRAL

A student or a parent can make self-referral. When a student is so referred, he shall undergo an assessment by our Counselor. A student who is voluntarily referred, who is actively involved in a Substance Abuse Awareness Program and who is successfully addressing the problem (abstaining from use), may continue in school activities.

REFERRAL

(A verified incident, just suspicion)

Staff members may refer a student for assessment. Parental approval is necessary prior to assessment. With parental approval, the student shall undergo assessment by our Counselor. If the student admits to a problem and gets actively involved in our Substance Abuse Awareness Program and successfully addresses the problem (abstaining from use), the student may continue in school activities.

AWARDS

Requirements For Letter Awards

The athlete must complete the season as follows:

- Field Hockey: Play in 40% of the halves
- Football: Play in 40% of the quarters.
- Golf: Earn six points.
- Marching Band: Participation for three seasons.
- Basketball: Play in 40% of the quarters.
- Outdoor Track: Earn ten points or be seeded in the State Meet.
- Baseball/Softball Play in 40% of the innings.
- Tennis: Play 40% of the matches.
- Indoor Track: Earn 15 points.
- Manager: Attend all practices and games and carry out all duties as assigned by the coach.

Letters will be given to the athlete the first time they earn it, along with a pin. Pins will be given each year after, if the student continues to earn his letter. Seniors who have not met the criteria for earning a letter, but have participated three out of four years will receive a letter and pin.

Plaques will be awarded to seniors who have an athletic history of being award winners. These plaques will be awarded by the Athletic Department and will be issued only if all equipment is turned in or paid for.

Requirement For Trophy Awards

The athlete must complete the season and have earned a varsity letter in that sport for that season, but even if these requirements are met, the final award choices are at the coach's discretion. Coaches may select up to three trophy award winners from the following list:

- Most Improved ~ Best Blocker ~ Offense
- Hardest Worker ~ Most Valuable ~ Defense
- Leadership Award ~ Best Tackler ~ Senior
- Spirit Award ~ Player
- Most Dedicated
- Specialty:

Statistical Award

The athlete must surpass the coaches' guideline for that sport. Depending on the sport, the category will vary. Examples – (Rebounder, Scorer, Assist Tackles, Average, Steals, RBI, Stolen bases, Doubles, Triples, Home runs, ERA, State Records, etc....)

Certificate of Participation

All athletes who complete the season will receive a certificate of participation at all levels (FR., JV, Varsity)

Female/Male Senior Athlete Award

All Coaches will select nominees and all head coaches will have one vote. Winners will receive a plaque. The following criteria will be used to select the nominees and winners.

1. The Athletic Director will ask Head Coaches to make nominations in early May.
2. Nominations by coaches will be determined by the following criteria:
 - *Athleticism*: The athlete, who has been dedicated to our athletic teams, displays commitment to excellence in his/her performance and the performance of the teams of which he/she has participated.
 - *Academics*: The athlete who works to the best of his/her abilities in academics.
 - *Character/Sportsmanship/Integrity*: The athlete demonstrating the highest degree of sportsmanship, character, and integrity both on and off the court or field.
3. The Athletic Director will call for a meeting to determine the recipients by mid-May.
4. The committee to select the recipients will consist of all Head Coaches, Athletic Director, Assistant Principal and Principal.
5. After hearing the coaches speak on behalf of their nominees, other committee members may speak or ask questions. The administrators will provide a class list with class rank.
6. A rank sheet will be distributed to score the nominees.
 - It will be weighted: Athleticism – 50%, Academics – 25% and CSI – 25%.
 - If the field is narrowed to two nominees, the score sheet will not count a score of (1) or (2).
 - Score will determine the recipients. In case of a tie, there will be two recipients.
7. Only the coaches and administrators that are present may vote.

OLD ORCHARD BEACH SPORTSMANSHIP CREED

Player Responsibilities

1. Demonstrate good sportsmanship toward the opponents and treat them with respect.
2. Exercise self control at all times.
3. Win without boasting, lose without excuses, and never quit.
4. Respect officials and accept their decisions without question.
5. Never forget that they are representing their school.

Coaches' Responsibilities

1. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. You are the leaders on and off the court.
2. Have and show respect for the opponents and treat them as guests.
3. Accept the officials' decision. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials. Public protest can only lead to similar behavior by the players and spectators.
4. Refrain from any profanity, as it is an unacceptable part of the game for either you or your players.
5. Maintain self control at all times.
6. Provide opportunities for social interaction among coaches and players of both teams before and after the contest.
7. Be mindful of comments made to the news media, especially following a hard fought contest.
8. Let the players play. It's their game.

Officials' Responsibilities

1. Know the rules.
2. Be fair and firm on all decisions.
3. Treat players and coaches courteously and demand the same treatment.
4. Know the game is for the athletes and let them have the spotlight.
5. Keep calm and rational at all times.

Spectators' Responsibilities

1. Remember the game is for the players: your good sportsmanship will enhance their educational experience.
2. Refrain from distracting the players during the contest.
3. Recognize and appreciate skill in performance, regardless of affiliation.
4. Treat officials with respect before, during, and after the contest.
5. Display good conduct and abide by the school's rules. The Administration has the authority to remove any spectator who does not behave properly.
6. Remember, your view of the game could be quite different from the officials'.
7. Recognize the fact that as a student you represent the school, as do the athletes.

8. Respect, cooperate, and respond enthusiastically players, officials, and coaches.

WESTERN MAINE CONFERENCE SCHOLAR STUDENT-ATHLETE RECOGNITION

1. The Athletic Directors of Western Maine Conference schools will identify and recognize all-academic student-athletes from each sport season who meet the following criteria:
 - A member of the Senior Class
 - Earn a 3.2 grade point average (93) or its equivalent (non-weighted) through out their high school career.
 - A member of a varsity team
2. Each school will nominate candidates based upon the following process:
 - All academic work must completed by the end of the season.
 - The nominee abides by all school's policies and codes of conduct.
 - The first 6 semesters will be utilized to determine eligibility for fall activities, for winter and spring the first 7 semesters will be utilized.
3. Recipients will receive a certificate from the conference to be given at the Athletic Directors discretion (i.e. end of the season banquet or in the spring).
4. A list of the all-academic team will be posted in the local papers along with the WMC all-star teams for that respective season.