

COLDWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS HANDBOOK FOR STUDENT- ATHLETES

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CCS ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

The Coldwater Community Schools Athletics Department will provide quality educational and athletic opportunities for its staff, students, parents and the community.

COLDWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

The Coldwater Community Schools provides a supportive and challenging learning environment where every student is prepared to succeed in a global community

VISION

Making a world of difference for our students

Every student...

Every way...

Every day!

LETTER TO STUDENT-ATHLETES

Dear Student-Athlete,

Each new school year brings new challenges and new opportunities. The privilege you have earned to be a part of an interscholastic athletic team at our school is an extension of your work in the classroom. We hope you will benefit as much from your athletic experiences as you do from your academic endeavors.

One challenge before us each year is the promotion of good sportsmanship. As a high school athlete, acceptable levels of behavior on the playing field are best learned now, as the lessons learned will last a lifetime.

As an athlete, you are constantly in the public eye. You are a leader. Many people look to your accomplishments and behavior on the field and in the classroom as a source for community pride. Many students in our school see you as a role model whose behavior is to be emulated.

These are the reasons why good sportsmanship is so important. The example you provide demonstrates the standard of behavior expected from everyone associated with our program. It only takes a single moment of thoughtlessness to create a negative impression. To maintain good sportsmanship throughout a season takes as much hard work as you put into developing your athletic skills. The latter pays much bigger dividends in the long run.

Please take the time to review the attached guidelines, which state our expectations for our student-athletes as leaders of our school. I hope these guidelines will become part of your preparation for the upcoming season.

Finally, I hope that the upcoming season is a rewarding one for you.



Todd R. Farmer CMAA

Athletic Director

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics in the Coldwater Community Schools are considered to be an integral part of the physical education program and, in turn, of the educational program of the school. Athletics offer students desirable learning experiences.

Our athletic program shall be so directed that:

1. The welfare of all students should be the guiding principle of the athletic program.
2. Participation in interscholastic athletic competition is a *privilege* that must be earned and held.
3. The athletic program is an integral part of the educational program as a means of providing a desirable learning experience and serves as a performance demonstration by our athletes
4. The development and maintenance of good fitness through proper health habits and strict adherence to training rules is expected of all athletes.
5. All athletes are expected to exhibit behavior that will gain and hold the respect of adults, fellow students, and younger children.
6. Any student who has participated in an athletic contest at any time during Grades 6-12 shall be considered an athlete.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ATHLETE

The student who serves on an athletic team at Coldwater High School and competes interscholastically represents himself/herself, the family, the team, the school, and the community. Always conducting **yourself** with the upmost integrity respect and responsibility. For these reasons, conduct on and off the playing fields should reflect the highest values and standards the school exemplifies.

Because participation in athletics is a privilege, all athletes are expected to be good citizens in school as well as the community. **Therefore, you should never allow yourself to be put in a position that would jeopardize this privilege.**

Equipment/uniforms are provided by the school for student use during the season. Any athlete who does not return assigned equipment/uniforms at the end of the season will be responsible to reimburse the Coldwater Community Schools Athletic Department for the full cost of replacement. Any athlete or student observed with athletic equipment (football jersey, warm-up jacket, etc) not assigned to him or her will be considered in possession of stolen property. Such equipment will be confiscated. All parties in violation of this rule shall be penalized via CHS/LMS Disciplinary process and Athletes will receive an additional 1 -2 game suspension.

It is strongly suggested that once a student begins participation in a sport, he/she completes that sport. As most athletes have to go through the cutting process, it is unfair to those who have been cut not to have the opportunity to participate. Quitting prior to the end of any season, for no apparent reason along with a review from coaches and administration will omit you from participation in 10% or minimum of 1 competition date(s) in the next sport to which you participate.

Students and parents are asked to sign an Athletic Responsibility Acknowledgment (page 16), stating that they have read and understand the Student Code of Conduct, the Athletic rules, the team rules, as well as the parent/coach relationship and the MHSAA requirements before they will be allowed to participate in sports. **This will be done prior to the first competition as well as the pay to participate fee. (\$55.00/sport, Dual Sports \$80.00.)** The signed form will be kept on file in the Athletic Director's Office.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT-ATHLETES

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility and the privilege of representing the school and the community. Your main responsibility is that you are a student first and athlete second. You are allowed to be an athlete because of your academic responsibility and performance.
- Understand the rules of your sport thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and younger students. Such a discussion will create a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Depending on the sport, there are differences in training procedures, therefore it is understood that when a sport utilizes current dress protocol due to the length of an activity or humidity concerns, certain attire (sport bra-girls/no shirts – boys) are acceptable based on the coach's discretion.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated; as a guest or a friend.
- Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Never argue or make non-verbal gestures that may indicate disagreement. This type of immature activity may incite undesirable behavior in the stands and/or by teammates, and may cause repercussions to the team.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF OUR SPECTATORS

At Coldwater High School, we believe that sportsmanship is very important, not only for our athletes but for our fans as well. As you watch a sporting event, please observe the following guidelines as set forth by the Michigan High School Athletic Association:

Acceptable Behavior

1. Applause during the introduction of players, coaches and officials.
2. Acceptance of the decisions of officials.
3. Cheerleaders leading fans in positive cheers in a positive manner.
4. Treating competition as a game, not as a war.
5. Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
6. Showing concern for an injured player, regardless of team affiliation.
7. Encouragement of other spectators to display only sportsmanlike conduct.
8. As spectators during **outside** athletic events, males and females will be allowed to paint their stomachs. Females will be allowed to tuck their shirts under the undergarments and boys to go shirtless. This does not apply for any/all inside athletic events.

Unacceptable Behavior

1. Taunting, trash talk, and other intimidating actions.
2. Acceptance of poor sportsmanship on the part of nearby spectators.
3. Disrespectful or derogatory cheers, chants, songs, or gestures.
4. Booming or heckling an official's decision.
5. Verbal criticism of officials and/or displays of temper toward an official.
6. Cheers meant to antagonize opponents.
7. Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches, or participants.
8. Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
9. The wearing of clothing or face/body painting meant to mock or ridicule an opponent.
10. The intrusion of spectators on the playing surface.

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

In consideration of Section 1178 of the Michigan School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the OSHA/MIOSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Regulations, and in conformance with the recommendations for the administration of medication to students as articulated by the Michigan Department of Education, the following recommendations are made.

Additionally, in compliance with updated State and Federal guidelines, executive administration advises the Board of Education to approve revision of the district's existing Policy 5141.5, "Administering Medication to Students."

A school administrator, teacher or other employee designated by a school administrator will not be held liable for administering medication to a student if the medication is administered:

1. In good faith,
2. In the presence of another adult (or in an emergency that threatens the life or health of the student),
3. With written permission of the student's parents or guardians, and documentation of medical administration.
4. In compliance with the instructions of a physician.

Accordingly, the administering of medication to students at school shall include the following:

1. Prescription Medication

The district shall disseminate permission forms in compliance with Policy #5141.5R requiring parental permission. As a matter of record, the form must contain relevant data including name of medication, dosage, type of administration, frequency, doctor's name and special instruction, in the original bottle from the pharmacy.

2. Non-Prescription (Over-the-Counter) Medication

The district shall disseminate permission forms in compliance with Policy #5141.5R requiring parental permission. As a matter of record, the form must contain relevant data including name of medication, dosage, type of administration, frequency, doctor's name and special instructions.

3. Student Self-Administration/Self-Possession Prescription Medication

The district shall disseminate permission forms in compliance with Policy #5141.5R requiring parental permission. Designated students may carry medication such as inhalers or allergy medications to be self-administered, as he/she feels necessary under the specific written instructions of the doctor. Students are not permitted to carry controlled substances, e.g., Ritalin, Adderall or Vicodin, for self-administration.

USE OF PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS

Public Act 215 of 2006 amends Section 380.1318 of the Revised School Code and requires each public school district to create a policy relating to the eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics for an athlete who uses performance-enhancing drugs. A list of banned performance-enhancing substances is available through the Department of Community Health and is based on the list of banned drugs contained in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Bylaw 31.2.3.1.

IN THE EVENT OF AN INJURY

At School

Injuries that occur at Coldwater will need to be reported to the coach and or the Athletic Trainer. The Athletic Trainer will evaluate and make a referral if needed. In most cases injuries are minor and the athlete will be instructed on home care and anticipated follow-up care. If time permits or the injury is more extensive, parents/guardians will be contacted with instructions for follow-up care or other concerns may be addressed.

On the Road

If an athlete is injured away from Coldwater, the coach will need to be notified immediately. Athletes may be taken to the athletic trainer of the host school for evaluation or referred to the trainer at Coldwater for evaluation following their return to school. Because of travel times and distance of contests from Coldwater, the student may need to report the injury to the athletic trainer the following day. **In cases of significant injury, parents will be contacted about the injury immediately.**

If told to “see the Athletic Trainer at Coldwater,” the athlete should report to him/her the following day. **This has to be done prior to practice or competition the following day. The ATHLETE will NOT participate in a practice or competition until cleared by the athletic trainer.**

If You See Your Doctor or go to the Hospital

If you intend to see a physician, please try to contact the certified athletic trainer to obtain a referral form for his/her use. Your physician can use this form to indicate the severity of the problem, type of treatment which would best benefit your child, and indicate a time frame to follow for any activity restrictions. If you do not have a copy of this form please ask your physician to give you written treatment instructions.

Please try to obtain written information from your physician at the time of an office visit. Obtaining parental permission to contact the doctor, placing the call, and waiting (and hoping) for a return call takes valuable time that could be used to treat your child.

Parent/Guardian will be the primary insurance holder. The school will be the secondary insurance and will most likely pay for anything the primary insurance does not cover from the injury that occurred during season, at either a practice or contest. However, proper paper work will need to be filled out. The parent/guardian should contact the athletic office with any questions (517) 279-5931.

TITLE VI – CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Any person believing that their rights under this act have been violated shall contact their building principal. If the matter is not resolved satisfactorily, then contact should be made with the Superintendent of Coldwater Schools, 401 Sauk River Dr, Coldwater, MI, 49036 phone (517)279-5910, for the name of the hearing officer for this law.

TITLE IX – DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The School Board’s Title IX Policy

Pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” Using the guidelines of Title IX, the Coldwater Community School Board of Education is committed to providing students with a learning environment free from sexual harassment or gender discriminatory behavior.

It shall be a violation of policy for any student, teacher, administrator, school personnel, agents, volunteers, or third parties subject to the supervision and control of the school board to harass or discriminate against a student based upon sex. Acts of sexual harassment or inappropriate employee-student relations or student-peer relations are prohibited at all times during the school day including while on school –sponsored transportation, during observation or participation in after-school activities, and during school-related functions such as sporting events, social activities or field trips.

Sexual Harassment Defined

Sexual harassment is any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive as to create an intimidating, hostile or abusive educational environment; or substantially or unreasonably interfere with an individual’s education: or limit an individual’s ability to participate in or benefit from the education program. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Verbal harassment
- Pressure for sexual activity
- Sexually motivated or inappropriate hugging, kissing, patting, massages or pinching
- Sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors
- Implied or overt threats accompanied with demand for sexual favors
- Remarks and/or pictures of a sexual nature about a person’s clothing or body
- Fondling or grabbing
- Spreading sexual gossip
- Subjecting someone to sexual materials
- Sexual assault or rape

Gender Discrimination Defined

Gender discrimination occurs when different treatment or consideration takes place due to the sex or gender of the individual rather than individual merit. The behavior complained of must be directed toward a specific gender and free from any reasonable justification. Under the regulation of Title IX, the Coldwater Community School Board prohibits gender discrimination in areas including, but not limited to:

- Education assistance, i.e. tutoring, after-school learning; counseling services; receiving college preparation materials; receiving preparatory materials for school testing; physical education and athletics; student rules and policies; and extracurricular activities.

The School Board is committed to providing all genders with a positive learning environment and will enforce that all individuals, regardless of gender, receive equitable treatment and benefits.

Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of harassment or discriminatory behavior must immediately report such behavior to the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will then notify the school principal of the alleged acts.

Complaints should be directed to: **Gary Dancer, Principal, 519 Otis Rd., Coldwater, MI 49036. Phone 517-238-2105, or Terry Ann Boguth, Superintendent, 401 Sauk River Dr., Coldwater, MI 49036. Phone 517-279-5910 ~ TITLE IX Coordinators**

THE ATHLETIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Athletic Advisory Committee is to administer the athletic programs through a duly authorized director and coaches following guideline policies that are established by the coaching staff, administrators, and the Board of Education.

Membership may include:

- Varsity Coaching Staff
- One or both secondary principals
- One appointed Board of Education member (when applicable)
- The athletic trainer

Athletic Advisory Committee meetings may be called by the Director of Athletics as deemed necessary. Special meetings may be called by request of a majority of the members.

INTERSTATE EIGHT ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (I-8)

Coldwater High School is a member of the Interstate Eight Athletic Conference. These schools include:

- Coldwater
- Harper Creek
- Hastings
- Lumen Christi
- Marshall
- Northwest
- Pennfield
- Western

SPORTS INFORMATION NIGHTS

Meetings will be held at the beginning of each season. Coaches, athletes, and their parents are requested to attend these meetings. The meetings will cover information and requirements specific to the sport, as well as athletic department policies and rules, including MHSAA eligibility regulations.

SQUAD SELECTION

Philosophy

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic program while at Coldwater High School, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without losing the integrity of their sports especially at the sub-varsity levels. Obviously, time, space, facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport. However, when developing policy in this regard, coaches have been asked to maximize the opportunities for our students without diluting the quality of the program.

Policies For Team Selection

1. Responsibility
 - a. Choosing the members of athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads.
 - b. Freshman and junior varsity coaches shall take into consideration the policies as established by the Head Coach in that particular program when selecting final team rosters.
 - c. Prior to trying out, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:
 - i. length of try-out period
 - ii. the criteria used to select the team
 - iii. the number of team members to be selected
 - iv. the practice commitment time if they make the team
 - v. game commitment schedule if they make the team
2. Procedure
 - a. When team selection becomes a necessity, the process will include three important elements. Each candidate shall:
 - i. have competed in a minimum of three practice sessions.
 - ii. have performed in at least one game-simulation activity
 - iii. be personally informed (face to face), of the team selection by the coach and the reason for the action.
 - iv. Athletes wishing to dual sport will need permission from BOTH coaches involved and an agreement signed regarding primary sport obligations prior to the beginning of contests.
 - b. Coaches will discuss alternative possibilities for participation in the sport, or other areas in the activities program.

ATHLETICS AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

1. An athlete must be in attendance in all classes in order to practice or compete unless pre-excused by a doctor or the Director of Athletics. An athlete not in attendance for all classes who participates in practice or competition without the approval of the Director of Athletics will be suspended from further athletic participation until the respective coach and the Director of Athletics meet to decide what appropriate action should be taken.
2. If a student skips/misses a class, he/she is ineligible to **practice or play in a contest** that day.
3. If a student is absent for a college visitation, that student may practice or compete if there is documentation of the visit from the college.

4. If a student is suspended, that student is ineligible to practice or compete during the period of suspension. **If the student is “in school suspended,” for any time during the school day, that student is expected to go to the practice/competition, be part of the team, but not be dressed for participation. This includes RTC visits during the instructional time during the school day unless prior arrangements have been made per individual student plan(s).**
5. **If a student is suspended from school during the entire try-out period of a sport where cuts are made, they will NOT be allowed to try out. If a student is suspended from school during a non-cut sport during the 2-3 weeks of practice, they will be allowed to join the team, but will have to participate in the amount of practices indicated by the coach prior to competing, along with serving the penalty for the athletic violation.**
6. Parents must notify the Athletic Office **prior** to any expected absence and give the reason for the absence. The Director of Athletics may or may not approve this absence for participation in sports that day.
7. It is understood that during non-scheduled school vacation days (ex: Christmas/spring break), practices cannot be mandatory. Practices are not only geared for the improvement of play but also as a precautionary measure for injury. Coaches are strongly encouraged to hand out a practice plan prior to any non-school vacation days, along with any information regarding the game plan, if practices are missed. Students not attending scheduled practices may miss playing time so that the possibility of any injuries can be prevented. As sports requirements are different, it will be up to the coach’s discretion on how much game time will be missed.

There may be extenuating circumstances in some cases regarding an absence. In these cases, the Director of Athletics in conjunction with the coach will make the decision regarding participation.

CODE OF ETHICS/SPORTSMANSHIP

Training Rules for Coldwater Athletes

1. A student becomes an athlete once he/she begins participation with the intent to play; therefore, **ALL** training rules are in effect from the time they start until they decide not to participate in athletics or graduation.
2. All reports of training rule violations must be investigated by the Director of Athletics and the Head Coach of the affected sport and appropriate follow-up action taken. Parents of athletes who have violated training rules shall be notified by the coach or athletic director about the infraction and the penalty assessed as soon as possible after the violation occurs.
3. Basic training rules that apply to all athletes are (but not limited to):
 - a. No use of or possession of tobacco or tobacco products, vaping pens/products, designer drugs or look-alike.
 - b. No drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages.
 - c. No use of or possession of an unauthorized or controlled substance at any time.
“Possession” is defined as the act of having or taking into control
4. Behavior unbecoming an athlete including, but not limited to: fighting, felonies which lead to conviction, malicious destruction of property, extortion or coercion, inappropriate use of technology towards athletes, coaches, teams, and school personal, academic fraud such as: cheating, plagiarism, or providing materials for another student’s use.
5. If a majority of the Athletic Advisory Committee members of Coldwater High School express to the principal or Director of Athletics through petition, delegation or other means of contact objection to an athlete's conduct in or out of school, the matter shall be discussed at the earliest possible date in a

meeting of the building's members of the Athletic Advisory Committee and appropriate action shall be taken.

6. Violations are based upon any and all school sponsored events. This includes but not limited to all off sight events and practice locations.
7. Curfews are left to the judgment and enforcement of individual coach.
 - The penalties listed above are guidelines and are subject to review by administration, the coach and/or the Athletic Advisory Committee based on the severity of the violation.
 - Penalties assessed to the athlete who feel they are unjust may appeal to the Athletic Director, then the Athletic Advisory Committee.

Penalties for Violations of Rules (Grades 6-12)

All training rule violations in grades 6-12 are accumulative for the six (6) semesters in middle school and for eight (8) semesters of eligibility in high school.

****Violations will start over when entering their high school athletic career, unless a violation occurs during the 8th grade school year, and the student-athlete has not fulfilled their discipline on a current violation. That violation will carry over to their next sport season.**

First Violation

Using the **Maximum** number of regular season contests allowed by the MHSAA in each sport as the base by which to apply the rule, the student-athlete will be ineligible to participate in **25%** of that sport's regular and post season contests. The exclusions shall be consecutive starting with the first scheduled event after the violation has occurred. Exclusions will carry over to the next season the student-athlete participates in, should the penalty not be completed during the initial season of ineligibility.

Second Violation

Using the maximum number of regular season contests allowed by the MHSAA in each sport as a base by which to apply the rule, the student-athlete will be ineligible to participate in 50% of that sport's regular and post season contests. The exclusion shall be consecutive starting with the first scheduled event after the violation has occurred. Exclusion will carry over to the next season the student –athlete participates in, should the penalty not be completed during the initial season of ineligibility.

Third Violation

The student-athlete will lose his/her eligibility for one calendar year from the date of the violation.

Fourth Violation

The student athlete will lose his/her eligibility for the remainder of their Coldwater High School career.

Other

- If an athlete has a documented injury prohibiting their athletic participation during the suspension period for a second violation, the time missed due to the injury will not be counted toward fulfillment of the suspension period. If the student-athlete is injured during practice while they are serving a suspension, that time served will count toward their suspension. If the student is injured before the suspension starts, or during a non-practice, that time will not count.
- If a student decides to quit a team, s/he will not be able to participate in any athletic sponsored out of season activities, until the current season is over.

Self-Disclosure 1.

Any student-athlete who by her/himself or together with her/his parent or legal guardian voluntarily discloses their violation of the Athletic Code to the Athletic Director, School Administrator or Coach prior to any reports, charges or complaints shall agree to the following:

- a. Seek chemical assessment/treatment program from a licensed agency. Any expense will be the responsibility of the student athlete and/or the parent/legal guardian.
- b. Satisfactory completion of the assessment must be verified in writing by the licensed agency.
- c. The student-athlete will be ineligible for 12.5% of the scheduled events during the current season or the next season if the offense is committed between seasons. If the student-athlete cannot serve the total 12.5% suspension during the current season, the remaining percentage will carry over into the next season/sport of participation. All splits will be rounded up to the next whole number.
- d. If the student-athlete does not follow the self-disclosure requirement, the student-athlete will be required to serve the full penalty under the penalty provision in the Code of Conduct.
- e. Self-disclosure will be available to the student-athlete once during their career, and will still be considered an offense.

MHSAA MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

1. The student must have passed at 66% of a full credit load potential for a full-time student. 66% at Coldwater High School would be passing 4 out of 6 classes. ***At Coldwater, a student can't receive any "E's" or more than 2- D's. Weekly monitoring by the coach and Athletic Department will be required to make sure eligibility requirements are met.***
2. If a student decides to quit a team, s/he will not be able to participate in any athletic sponsored out of season activities, until the current season is over.
3. The student must be enrolled in school on or before the 4th Friday after Labor Day of the present semester or 4th Friday of February of the second semester.
4. The student must be under nineteen (19) years of age unless he/she is nineteen (19) on or after September 1.
5. The student must have a physical examination confirming that he/she is physically able to participate in competitive sports. Physical examinations for the current year are accepted if they were given after **April 15** of the previous school year.
6. The student must not participate in more than eight (8) semesters of sports and must be enrolled full time in high school at the time of his participation.
7. The student must be an undergraduate student.
8. The student must be a bona fide member of the school district in which he/she participates with the exception of a Co-Operative Agreement between schools.
9. The student must not accept any compensation for playing sports at any time of the year. This will result in making the student ineligible for the minimum of one (1) year and could result in making him/her ineligible for his/her whole school career.
10. The student must not accept any award such as a trophy or medal valued over \$25.00.
11. The student must not perform in "after-season" games such as charity all-star contests, etc.

PARTICIPATE FEE REQUIREMENTS

1. Athletes who have been accepted as team members are required to pay **\$55.00** to participate in the sport. \$80.00 for dual sporting who participate in those designated sports. There is a \$250.00 annual cap per family.

2. Payment is due **prior to the first contest of the season.**
3. Athletes who quit a team or are dismissed from the team after the first contest are not entitled to a refund.
4. No student will be excluded from participation in a sport because of the inability to pay. The Director of Athletics and building principal shall determine exclusionary status. If exclusion is denied by the athletic director and building principal, an appeal may be filed with the superintendent of schools.
5. A team's coach and/or a seasonal parent meeting will collect the participation fee and will issue a receipt for the money collected. Payment by check is strongly recommended.
6. A student becomes an athlete once he/she begins participation in any sport therefore the above stated (all), training rules apply.

COLDWATER ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT DUAL SPORT PARTICIPATION

Rationale

Coldwater High School seeks to provide quality-co-curricular athletic opportunities for its students. Some students have talents and abilities which they have a desire to contribute to more than one team in a particular season and both of these teams can benefit. Some activities may struggle with low numbers and this can boost participation in those sports.

Students Participating in Two Activities During the Same Season

1. Students are allowed to participate in 2 co-curricular activities during the same season. Students wishing to participate in 2 sports during the same season will need to obtain a request form from the Athletic Department and follow the guidelines involving dual sports participation. The pay to participate fee will be an additional \$25.00.
2. Student are not allowed to participate in "open gym" as well as other non-school competition in another sport, on the same day they are participating in a school sponsored co-curricular sports activity, without the permission of the head coach of the sport in which they are currently participating.

Rules of Dual-Sports Participation

1. A student who wishes to participate in 2 sports during the same season must designate a primary sport before the beginning of the first appointed date of practice set by the MHSAA for the season of participation.
2. A primary sport is defined as the sport which takes precedence over another sport in the event there is a conflict of schedule or any other matter that could lead to a conflict. The student must adhere to the primary sport in the event of any and all conflicts of schedule. If one sport has a contest and the other has practice, the contest will take precedence.
3. The student must practice in both sports but the amount of practice time must meet the agreed requirements of the head coaches of those sports involved.
4. Approval may be denied because of academic concerns at any time during the sport season. The student will participate in the PRIMARY sport only.
5. The student and parents or legal guardians must sign a contract of dual-sport participation before the first practice sessions he or she attends.
6. In the event that a student is disciplined for any athletic violation in a specific sport, the consequence will also be applied to the second sport in the season of dual participation. For example – Student "A's primary sport is football. Non- priority is soccer. Student A is suspended 25% of a season for drug use. It results in a 2.5 game suspension for the violation in football. Soccer games played within the window of the 2.5 football game suspension will also be suspended due to the athletic violation.

Coldwater Athletic Department Request for Dual Sport Participation

It is the intention of the athlete named below to participate in 2 sports during the same season. In order for this to occur, the following stipulations must be met in Accordance with the Coldwater Athletic Policy on Dual Sports Participation.

1. The process must be initiated by a scheduled conference between the 2 coaches involved.
2. The athlete must declare which sport is primary and secondary for participation purposes.
3. Approval may be denied because of academic concerns at any time during the sport season. The athlete then will participate in the primary sport ONLY.
4. Practice and game/meet requirements must be established prior to the first contest. Contests take precedence over practice, and the primary sport contests take precedence over secondary sports contests. This should be detailed in writing below after a conference has occurred between the 2 coaches involved and the athlete.

Name of Athlete: _____

Primary Sport: _____

Secondary Sport: _____

Season: Fall Winter Spring (circle one)

Practice and Game/Meet Requirements (attachment):

Additional Stipulations:

Signatures:

Signature of Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Primary Coach

Date

Signature of Secondary Coach

Date

Signature of Athletic Director

Date

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

While social media outlets can be an enjoyable and effective way to communicate with others it can also be very disruptive to the educational setting if used improperly. Interscholastic athletics are educational based and should be viewed as such by all students, parents, and community members. Students are encouraged to use social media only in ways that can be productive and positive in nature. Any inappropriate use of social media outlets or platforms may result in consequences which could result in disciplinary actions including removal from athletic participation. Behaviors that will not be condoned include but are not limited to any messages that include profane, lewd, sexually explicit, indecent, derogatory language, or inappropriate photos of any kind. Any social media messages that are intended to do harm or bring embarrassment to another group or individual will be deemed as punishable by those same consequences mentioned above.

ELASTIC CLAUSE: In the event the Code of Conduct or other school policies or procedures do not cover situations that arise, the administration and the Board of Education reserve the right to establish such rules and conditions to respond effectively to unanticipated or unique circumstances.

Coldwater Community Schools Department of Athletics Athletic Responsibility Acknowledgment

(Code of Ethics/Sportsmanship form)

As a Coldwater Community School student participating voluntarily in interscholastic athletics, I understand and agree that throughout my **athletic career** at both Legg Middle and Coldwater High School:

1. I will abide by the Coldwater Community Schools Student Code of Ethics/Sportsmanship, the School's Handbook for Athletes, the rules of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, the Parent/Coach Relationships Brochure, and the laws of The State of Michigan.
2. I will conduct myself in an exemplary manner that will not bring discredit to me, my family, my team, the school, or my community.
3. I will be responsible for all athletic equipment issued to me throughout the season. **Any athlete or student observed with athletic equipment (football jersey, warm-up jacket, etc.) not assigned to him/her will be considered in possession of stolen property. Such equipment will be confiscated. ALL parties in violation of this rule shall be penalized via CHS/LMS disciplinary process and Athletes will receive an additional 1-2 game suspension.**
4. I will return such equipment at the conclusion of the season, and will pay the current replacement cost for any of the equipment not returned by me at the end of the season.

Potential Dangers in Athletic Participation:

Parents and student-athletes should fully understand and appreciate the risk of serious personal injury associated with participation in the educational sports program provided by the Coldwater Community Schools. Athletic activities can be hazardous and taking part in such activities requires a calculated risk taken by the student-athlete. Reducing injuries to a minimum continues to be a goal of the Coldwater High School Athletic Department. This can be accomplished through proper training and weight lifting. Nevertheless, participation in school athletics involves flying objects and the swift movement of bodies. Collisions are frequently unavoidable. It is important that student-athletes and parents/guardians understand that there are risks incurred by participating in athletics.

Signature(s)

My signature acknowledges that I have read and understand the Coldwater Community Schools handbook (HS/MS), the handbook for athletes(manual), rules of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, the coach's team rules, concussion information, and Coach/Parent Relationships~ Expectations Brochure. I understand that should I violate any of the rules, I am subject to the disciplinary policies as stated in the various handbooks.

Student Name (please print) _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Note: This form must be signed and returned to the Athletics Department **before** participation in a sport may begin. **The form need be signed only ONCE per academic year, (as changes many occur).**