

XI. ATHLETIC GUIDELINES

NOTE: Following each paragraph there will be clarification as to whether it is a State or local rule.

The coach of any sport is expected to take a leadership role in the imposition of athletic discipline and to support the athletic and school administration in enforcing the athletic and school rules. A coach should never adopt the role of a disinterested third party. Winning in the Hobart City Schools athletic program is the result or product of sound instruction of techniques of the sport, of superior organization and preparation, of stressing the growth of character and leadership, and of the imposition of an effective and consistent disciplinary system and standards. The desire for a favorable win/loss record should never be an excuse for ignoring athletic skill development, character and leadership growth, and consistency in athletic discipline.

Hobart High School is a member of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and the association rules apply to all athletic teams and all sports contestants enrolled in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12. Additional IHSAA rules may be found on the IHSAA website at: www.ihsaa.org.

A. Rule Coverage

The School City of Hobart athletic rules apply to all athletic teams and all sport contestants enrolled in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 participating in any School City educational function. This will extend to cover the conduct of the athlete, manager, cheerleader and/or statistician in and out of school for 365 days, including summer months when school is not in session.

B. Certification of Eligibility and Participation Regulations

The eligibility of all contestants shall be certified by the principal of the school in accordance with the rules of the I.H.S.A.A. and SCHOOL CITY. A record of all sport participants for each grading period shall be on file. (local)

When eligibility is in question, students shall not be permitted to participate in interschool contests. An ineligible student should not appear in athletic uniform at games, but shall be present with the team at the site of the game. A student who is ineligible in his sport at one level is also ineligible for all levels of competition in that sport. (local)

Participation in an athletic contest on any other similar team during the same season in which they represent their school in that sport, shall cause students to be ineligible to compete on their high school team in that sport for a period not to exceed 365 days. (state)

Students who participate in any interschool contest when ineligible, other than in scholarship, too many quarters, too many events, and similar oversights become ineligible only in that sport for the remainder of that sport season unless facts were purposely withheld or misrepresented. In which case they are ineligible in all sports for the remainder of the school year. (state)

Students may participate for demonstration purposes in schools, camps or clinics held in Indiana (1) during the practice/contest season when their school coach is a participating clinician or (2) out of season when their school coach is a presenter. (state)

Athletes who participate in an athletic contest during a season as an individual or on any team other than their school team become ineligible in that sport for the remainder of the season. (state)

Participation of students in an organized athletic contest with or against players not belonging to their school constitutes a game. An organized "scrimmage" or practice by students with or against teams or players not belonging to their school is considered a game. (state)

Auditions - Tryouts Students with no remaining eligibility should refer to college rules and regulations before participating. (state)

Students wishing to enroll in or participate in specialized or diversified sport camps, schools, clinics, or other similar programs, involving coaching, instruction and participation should contact the athletic department for the specific guidelines that pertain to their sport.

The coaching staff is hired for their knowledge and expertise in each particular sport. It is at the discretion of each sport's coaching staff to decide who will be members of the team. It may be necessary to cut members trying out for the team. Every athlete trying out for a team will be given time to demonstrate his/her skills and abilities. (local)

Students who are eliminated from a team or who decide not to continue participation in that sport prior to the opening contest in that sport may try out for another sport that same season. (local)

If a student quits a sport after the opening contest, the student may not participate in another sport during the sport season except with the respective approval of the coaches of the sport he/she quit and the coach of the sport he/she is beginning. (local)

If a student is eliminated after contests begin, he/she may then report for another sport if the coach of the sport he/she is beginning approves. (local)

A student may participate in two (2) sports at the same time in one season with the consent and agreement of both head coaches. (local)

The review board (see conduct section) may at any time declare ineligible, suspend from practice and/or games, or remove permanently an athlete from a sport for any violation. (local)

C. Student/Parent Physician's Certificates

Between May 1 and a student's first practice in preparation for athletic competition the student shall have had:

1. A physical exam or certification by a physician holding an unlimited license to practice medicine.
2. Written consent of parent or guardian for such participation unless emancipated.
3. Statement of Consent to Administer Emergency Treatment and Assumption of all Liability for Emergency Medical Treatment (state)

These forms shall be on file in the athletic office and will suffice for the entire school year. (state)

A student/athlete shall attend and actively participate in regularly scheduled practice sessions to be eligible for interschool athletic competition. If, as a result of a school strike, student suspension, athletic suspension, health limitation or other similar reasons, a student shall fail to attend and actively participate in regularly scheduled practice sessions, such student shall be required to complete the following prior to participation:

- (a.)attendance and active participation in preseason practices, if applicable;
- (b.)attendance and active participation in four school-supervised practice sessions of normal length, which shall occur on four separate days prior to the day of the contest, if the student fails to attend and actively participate in more than four but less than 11 consecutive days of regularly scheduled practice:
- (c.)attendance and active participation in six school supervised practice sessions of normal length, which shall occur on six separate days prior to the day of the contest, if the student fails to attend and actively participate in more than 10 consecutive days of regularly scheduled practice. (state)

INTERPRETATION:

<u>Days Missed</u>	<u>#of Practices Required</u>
5 to 10	4
More than 10 consecutive	6

D. Age

A student who is or shall be twenty (20) years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the I.H.S.A.A. state finals in a sport shall be ineligible as to age for interschool athletic competition in that sport. (state)

E. Amateurism and Awards

All athletes participating in school sponsored practices and contests must be amateurs. (state)

Students shall not play under assumed names nor accept remuneration, directly or indirectly, for athletic

participation. Any member school students who directly or indirectly sign a professional contract lose their amateur standing and immediately become ineligible ONLY in the sport in which they signed a contract. (state)

Athletes shall be considered as violating their amateur standing if they participate in athletic activities, tryouts, auditions, practices and games held or sponsored by professional athletic organizations, clubs or their representatives. (state)

Giving or receiving paid instructions is not considered a violation of the aforementioned rule.

The giving and receiving of athletic awards shall:

- A. be kept within reasonable bounds,
- B. have symbolic value only,
- C. be with the consent and under the supervision of the athletic director and principal. (state)

Awards may be accepted by schools and/or students from such local organizations as service clubs, patriotic organizations, civic groups, dads' and mothers' clubs, and the sports department of a newspaper or radio station. NO AWARDS SHALL BE ACCEPTED WHICH, IN ANY WAY, ADVERTISE ANY FIRM OR INDIVIDUAL SO FAR AS COMMERCIAL OR BUSINESS INTERESTS ARE CONCERNED. (state)

Awards, medals, recognitions, gifts and honors shall not be accepted by players or schools from colleges, universities and high institutions of learning or their alumni. (state)

No awards of any type shall be accepted by schools from any outside organization designating athletes as having "ALL STATE" or "ALL AMERICAN" status. (state)

Each coach of every sport will determine his or her requirements to earn awards in that sport at a particular level. The following are approved awards by the athletic department and principal: 1) Freshman and Junior Varsity Certificates; 2) Varsity award, chenille "H", numerals, chevron; 3) Outstanding individual award/plaque; 4) Senior award/plaque; 5) Outstanding female/male senior athlete award/plaque. (local)

F. Conduct, Character, Discipline & Procedure

Expected conduct of contestants and athletic personnel in and out of school for 365 days, including summer months when school is not in session:

1. Not reflect discredit upon their school or I.H.S.A.A.
2. Not materially interfere or disrupt the educational process, or an educational function. An athlete is ineligible for competition when she is under suspension, expulsion, or reason to believe that he or she has violated any school, civil, state or federal regulation for any such reason.
3. Not to interfere or disrupt with team or individual discipline. Discipline for the violation of training rules is under the jurisdiction of the coach and school administrator. No student will impose hazing, either mental or physical, nor will force any students to participate in any initiation or ceremonies.
4. Students' home and personal Internet use can have an impact on the school and on other students. If students' personal Internet expression and text message-such as a threatening message to another student or a violent or inappropriate Web site-creates a likelihood of material disruption of the school's operations, students may face school discipline and criminal penalties.

Procedure:

An initial determination of an alleged violation of training rules, athletic department rules or school rules will be made by the Athletic Director setting forth in writing his/her decision, findings of fact and a conclusion as whether a rule has been violated in addition to the penalty to be Imposed.

An appeal may be taken to an Athletic Review Board within ten (10) calendar days after tender of notice to student and parent(s). The Athletic Review Board shall be composed of the principal or his/her designee, a coach of another sport other than those participated in by the student, an other school administrator from within the school corporation or another staff member of the school where the student attends.

The Athletic Review Board shall investigate the charge, may hold hearing(s) and review the decision of the Athletic Director. The Principal, as a corporate expulsion examiner, in this case, shall have powers as set forth in IC 20-33-8-19. After completing its investigation and fact-finding, the review board shall issue a written opinion which shall be tendered to the Athletic Director, student, parent involved, and the Superintendent of Schools. (local)

G. Enrollment and Attendance

In order to be eligible for athletic competition during any semester, a student must have entered some high school within the first 15 school days of the semester in which the contest occurs. (state)

A student who withdraws from school during the first 15 school days of any semester shall not be charged with a semester of enrollment. (state)

After being enrolled 16 or more days in each of four fall semesters, a student shall be ineligible for further participation during any fall semester. (state)

After being enrolled 16 or more days in each of four spring semesters, a student shall be ineligible for further participation during any spring semester. (state)

An athlete must be in attendance for a complete school day; otherwise, the athlete is ineligible for practice, athletic contest, or any sports activity of any type that same day. Students who are ill on Friday and/or absent from school and who wish to compete in a Saturday practice or contest must have the approval of his or her parents and athletic director or principal/designee. Any exceptions must be approved by school administration.

An athlete who is serving in-school suspension of any duration or an out-of-school suspension is ineligible for practice(s) or competition(s) the day(s) of that suspension and is not allowed to be a member of that team either by participation or attendance, whether home or away. (local)

H. Scholastic Eligibility

On a Block 8 schedule, a student athlete must pass six (6) solid subjects first and third quarter and first and second semester in order to be eligible to participate in athletics. As per IHSAA guidelines, semester grades take precedence over quarter grades. (A solid subject is one that has full credit per quarter if passed, which includes physical education course. If I.H.S.A.A. tournament play occurs following the grading period, the athlete will be ineligible for such tournament play if he/she fails to meet the standard within the previous grading period. The athletic department may mandate a weekly scholastic check for any athlete with academic problems. The student athlete who fails to pass (6) solid courses at the end of the year has the option to attend a summer school program. If the athlete passes the failed subject(s), he/she will be eligible to compete in the fall season. Failure to pass the failed subject(s) in summer school will result in the student's ineligibility for the fall sport season.* Athletic eligibility will be determined on the dates certified with the I.H.S.A.A. in September of each year.

NOTE: The fall sports season begins prior to the opening of school; therefore, the ineligible athlete may not participate prior to the opening of school plus the first grading period. (state)

An athlete who receives an incomplete must make up that incomplete within one week of the grading period in which the incomplete was given. If the incomplete is not made up it will be recorded as a failure. (Exceptions: long term illness or emergency situations.) (local)

Students who withdraw within the first 15 days of a quarter shall not be considered ineligible as to scholarship at the beginning of their next quarter of enrollment, provided they were eligible when they withdrew. (local)

I. Transfer

Students who have transferred from another school shall not be certified for interschool athletics during the ensuing 365 days until the principal has on file an I.H.S.A.A. Athletic Transfer Report signed by the former school principal (exception are 7th and 8th) except when there is a delay in returning the report the necessary information may be obtained by a phone call. (state)

J. Uniforms and Equipment

All uniforms and equipment belonging to the school must be returned to the school. If a uniform is not

returned, the student must pay the present cost plus 10% of the cost of the uniform. Should this uniform reappear, the uniform will be taken by school officials even if paid by the student. If a student fails to return or pay for a uniform or equipment he/she may be declared ineligible for further athletic participation. (local)

All lockers must be cleaned out within one week after the conclusion of a sport season. (local)

If you use a personal lock it must be a COMBINATION lock only and not a key lock. Your combination must be recorded with your coach. (local)

K. Injuries

No athlete is permitted to obtain medical treatment for a sports incurred injury and charge it to the athletic department.

The athletic department will furnish a licensed athletic trainer, at athletic events where his/her skills warrant his/her availability. All injuries should receive careful attention by the coach or trainer. It is also advised that you seek the aid of your doctor. If injured, the individual, with the school or team physician or family doctor will decide when a person is able to participate. If the trainer and/or team physician decide an athlete is not ready to participate following an injury, but the athlete's parents give permission then the following rules and regulations apply:

1. No parent can waive liability - the school continues to exercise its authority in determining participation.
2. The athlete must have a doctor's release. If the release is obtained, then the coach may dress the athlete but not play him or her if the trainer or team physician still object. The athlete may be brought to the trainer for a second evaluation after the athlete has obtained the release. If the trainer/team physician still says the athlete cannot play then their decision is FINAL. (local)

L. Training Rules - Athletic School Term (see General Eligibility Rules, A)

The student/athlete shall be suspended from interscholastic athletics for the following:

- A. Usage or possession of tobacco products in any form, consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages or intoxicants of any kind, usage or possession of drugs, controlled substances, paraphernalia, or substances represented to be or made to look like controlled substances, engaging in immoral, unethical, or unacceptable conduct contrary to state law, school rules or policies, and rules or regulations of the IHSAA.

The student/athlete will obtain a cumulative discipline record for his/her entire high school career.

1st Violation- Suspended for 20% of scheduled contests. After serving the suspension the student/athlete may petition to remove his/her 1st offense violation from their permanent record by successfully completing a professional intervention program, which is appropriate for the rule violation (applicable one time only on the first offense).

2nd Violation-If the student/athlete has not successfully completed an intervention program he/she will be suspended from all sports for 365 days from the date of the infraction.

3rd Violation-The student/athlete will be permanently suspended from all sports for the rest of his/her school career.

If a violation occurs at a time when the student/athlete is unable to miss the required number of contests, the remaining percentage of the suspension will be served in his/her next sport. The remaining percentage will then be figured on the number of contests for that sport. The student/athlete must finish their next sport in "good standing" in order to complete his/her suspension.

If the infraction occurs out of a sport season the athlete will then begin serving the suspension in his/her next sport season. Jamborees or scrimmages are not considered as a part of the scheduled contests for the sport season.

Athletes who are suspended for a violation of the athletic or school rules, shall not be permitted to dress or appear as a member of the team at an athletic contest. Since the captain or co-captain of a team is expected to lead by example, the suspension of a captain or co-captain will result in the relinquishing of

such position for the remainder of the sport season. Since the coach of a sport is the immediate supervisor of an athletic team, he/she will ensure that this regulation is effectively enforced. (local)

M. Transportation Fee

The 2011-2012 transportation fee will be \$20.00 per athlete per season (fall/winter/spring). If an athlete competes in more than one sport per season, a single fee will cover both sports. This fee will be collected by the head coach of the sport and will be collected during the first few days of the season.