

## REGULATIONS AND RULES FOR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### I. PURPOSE

The Board of Education of Independent School District No. 1, Aitkin, Minnesota, recognizes the important role activity programs contribute to the full development of each individual student. However, in order for students to participate in any activities program, they must follow the rules listed in this activities policy guide.

### II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

#### A. Minnesota State High School League Activities and All Other Non-League Activities:

Aitkin High School is a member of the Minnesota State High School League.

1. All school activities will follow the rules and regulations established by the Minnesota State High School League.
2. Each student who participates in a high school activity must be informed of the league rules and sign the league eligibility form.
3. A student suspended from school may not participate in an activity or practice during that time of suspension.

#### B. Minnesota State High School League Individual Coach/Activity Director Regulations:

1. All coaches or directors will abide by the rules established by the Minnesota State High School League. The coach or director must enforce the rules and follow their established procedure for any violation.
2. Each coach or director has the right to establish additional rules that are fair and equitable for all participants. These additional rules pertain only during the activity season and they must not be in conflict with district approved student discipline policies.

### III. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES THAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED OF ANY SUSPENSION FROM AN ACTIVITY PROGRAM.

#### A. Suspension Procedure from High School Activities:

1. In all suspensions from a high school activity, the parents and student will be informed in writing of the following:
  - a. Reason for suspension.
  - b. Statement of facts.
  - c. Statement of testimony.
  - d. Length of suspension.
2. The Principal of Aitkin High School and Activities Director will be responsible for the compliance of Article II, Section A, subheading a, b, c, d.

**IV. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES THAT A REVIEWAL PROCEDURE FOR ANY VIOLATION MUST EXIST.**

A. Reviewal Procedure for an Activity Violation:

1. A student who is suspended from an activity may, in writing, request a hearing before the Activities Council (within one week of suspension).

**V. THE ACTIVITIES COUNCIL WILL REVIEW WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY VIOLATION OF HIGH SCHOOL OR LEAGUE RULES, UPON WRITTEN REQUEST.**

A. Physical Make-up of Activities Council:

1. High School Principal
2. School Board Representative to the MSHSL
3. Activities Director
4. Male Coach
5. Female Coach
6. Music Director
7. Drama or Speech Director
8. Male Student
9. Female Student

- B. The Superintendent of Schools has the responsibility of selecting the members of the Activities Council.

- C. The High School Principal, School Board Representative to the MSHSL and Activities Director will be permanent members of the committee. All other members of the committee will be selected annually.
- D. The coach or Activities Director will be responsible for presenting the case to the Activities Council. The person presenting the case will not vote.
- E. Chairperson of Activities Council:

The High School Principal will serve as Chairperson of the Activities Council.

1. The Chairperson will be responsible to determining the meeting place and time of the hearing.
2. The Chairperson will be responsible for keeping and maintaining accurate records of all meetings.

## **VI. SPORT PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES**

I.S.D. #1 will provide numerous opportunities for students to participate in sport type activities at the elementary, junior high and senior high level. Through its sports activities at all levels, the district promotes good sportsmanship, the value of teamwork, opportunities for all students to participate, fairness and competitive successes. Depending on the level of competition, certain values are stressed over others.

Elementary Sports Program: All students regardless of gender will be given the opportunity to participate, learn and compete in sports open to them. Generally, the elementary sports program serves students in grades 4, 5 and 6. The only sport designated for males is wrestling (per this allowance by law). The primary goals or values promoted at this level will be good sportsmanship, skill development and participation. To this end, coaches are to consciously arrange for equal participation for all participants to the best of their ability. Under no circumstances will students at the elementary level of participation be moved “up” to the junior high level.

Junior High Sports Program: The junior high sports program serves students in grades 7, 8 and 9. Participation and season length are governed by school policy and the MSHSL. The primary goals and values promoted at this level will be good sportsmanship, skill development and participation over team success. Participation over team success means that the first priority is that all players will play a reasonable amount of time in each contest. Varsity coaches have the option of creating squads by grade (i.e. 7th grade baseball) or “blended” teams (i.e. junior high basketball-- 7th and 8th grade participate together). Playing squads would be developed with the squad being a team. Movement of players between blended squads would be expected throughout the season. If a 7th or 8th grade student is to be moved to the 9th grade level because numbers are such or player skills are developed for that level of play, it will be done only with the permission of the head coach and a letter in writing stating the reasons for the movement will be given to the Activities Director. As allowed by the MSHSL, students in grades 7-12 may participate at the varsity level (grade 10-12 program) if their skills are judged to be developed to allow for safe competition. This is the judgment of the varsity coach.

Senior High Sports Program: The senior high sports program, Varsity and B Squad, generally serves students in grades 10-12. The primary goals of the senior high program at this level is to teach good sportsmanship, skill development and to achieve team success through competition.

***Source:*** Aitkin Independent School District No. 0001, Aitkin, MN

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