

2023-2024
Kenyon-Wanamingo
Grades 7-12



Activities Rules and
Information

<http://www.kw.k12.mn.us>
<http://gopherconference.org>

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PHILOSOPHY OF THE ISD 2172 ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

The purpose of the activities program is to create an environment in partnership with parents and community that allows each student to develop his/her abilities.

KWHS philosophy promotes achieving excellence in all aspects of the school. This requires a great deal of dedication on the part of the students. In highly competitive athletic and academic activities, it may be necessary to cut some students because of skill level or squad size. Although we believe that all students should have an opportunity to participate, winning or excellence will not be sacrificed to allow everyone equal participation. We hope that many of our students will continue in their activities on a life-long basis.

K-W 7th and 8th Grade philosophy stresses students participating in as many activities as possible. No cuts are made at the 7th and 8th grade level. Coaches are expected to play all students, although not necessarily the same amount. We hope students who participate in activities programs enjoy their experience, regardless of skill level. Most of our programs allow the students to compete against opponents with similar skills. Winning is important, but it is not our major objective. We would hope that the 7th and 8th grade students learn social and athletic skills through the winning and losing process. A final goal would be that students learn those skills and attitudes that will promote their continued participation in a multitude of high school activities.

MSHSL CODE OF CONDUCT PROGRAM

Coaches/Advisors

- Follow the rules of the activity during progress of the contest.
- Accept the decisions of contest officials.
- Do not display unsportsmanlike gestures or language.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Avoid public display of criticism in front of participants or spectators.
- Teach sportsmanship and reward players that are good sports.

Participants

- Show respect for fellow participants and opponents verbally and non-verbally.
- Accept the decisions of contest officials.
- Do not display unsportsmanlike gestures or language.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Learn the rules of the game.

Spectators

- Applaud good performances by all participants.
- Work cooperatively with contest officials and supervisors in keeping order.
- Refrain from booing, foot-stomping, or making negative comments about officials or participants.
- Praise your teams without antagonizing or distracting opponents.
- Stay off the contest areas at all times.
- Do not use inappropriate noisemakers or hand-held signs containing derogatory messages.
- Show respect for public property.

Cheerleaders

- Use discretion in selecting the time to cheer.
- Encourage support for any injured participant.
- Show respect for opposing cheerleaders.
- Learn the rules of the game.
- Lead positive cheers, praising your team without antagonizing opponents.
- Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or inappropriate chants begin.

Bands

- Choose appropriate music and time for performing.
- Dress in school-approved uniforms.
- Show respect at all times for officials, opponents, and spectators.
- Show respect for public property.
- Stay off the contest areas at all times.

MSHSL STUDENT CODE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The MSHSL has established a code of eligibility for athletics, speech, and music activities. This code shall be the minimum basis for eligibility for all school activities including cheerleading and membership in organizations such as Student Council, Year Book, Class Officers, Knowledge Bowl, Robotics team, and Trap shooting. As a student participating in my school's interscholastic activities, I understand and accept the following responsibilities:

1. I will respect the rights and beliefs of others and will treat others with courtesy and consideration.
2. I will be fully responsible for my own actions and the consequences of my actions.
3. I will respect the property of others.
4. I will respect and obey the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state, and country.
5. I will show respect to those who are responsible for enforcing the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state, and country.

The Principal may suspend students from extra-curricular participation for not meeting these responsibilities. The consequences will likely include suspension from activity competition for a period of time and/or dismissal from that activity.

Eligibility Requirements:

KWHS is a member of the Minnesota State High School League, an association of secondary schools formed to govern interscholastic contests in athletics, debate, speech, drama, and music. All MSHSL participants are subject to the rules and regulations of the League. There are some other local rules that also must be complied with.

- Training and participation rules established by the MSHSL, Board of Education, and individual Coaches/Advisors.
- Students coming out for an activity after the season has begun must be a fully participating member of the team for SEVEN days before being eligible for interscholastic competition.
- Full participation means that a participant attends and participates in all practices and games.
- Students who are ineligible for MSHSL events for academic/chemical ineligibility MUST be a fully participating member of the team from the first day of practice until the end of the season to count toward reinstatement.
- Students must be enrolled in at least 3.0 academic credits per semester to participate in any MSHSL activities for grades 9 - 12.
 - Ineligibility – Participants shall strive to be successful in all classes. A student must meet School and MSHSL eligibility requirements defining a full-time student and have received no failing grades (F) in the most recent grade-reporting period. A student who becomes academically ineligible by receiving a failing grade may regain eligibility by meeting the academic standard following a period of 10 scheduled school days and nights of ineligibility. A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes (I) are made up within two weeks after a grade –reporting period. For fall sports in which the date of earliest competition is before the first day students are in class, the minimum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of 1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed practice in that sport 2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction).
 - Paperwork to establish academic eligibility must be picked up and returned to the office before eligibility is reinstated.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS

- Students must be making satisfactory progress towards the school's requirements for graduation.

ATTENDANCE

MISS SCHOOL--MISS GAME OR PRACTICE

A student who is absent for any part of the day may not take part in any after school activity for that school day unless excused in advance by the high school principal. All appointments must be approved at least one day in advance. In case of emergency, the HS/MS Office should be notified by phone, by the parent/guardian, as soon as possible if a student will miss any school the day of an event.

SUSPENSION/DETENTION

When a student is assigned OSS, ISS, or detention, these consequences have priority over participation in activities. If there is a conflict, a student needs to serve their consequence through the High School Principal's Office prior to participation or be subject to stricter discipline. **Students assigned to ISS or OSS will not be allowed to practice/participate in practices/events on the first day of the assigned ISS or OSS.**

RULES/INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Prior to the first day of practice for each activity, a Parent/Player Meeting will be held for participants and parents. Attendance at this meeting is **STRONGLY** encouraged. Parents and students will be responsible for all information distributed at the MSHSL meeting. **NO** student will be allowed to participate or compete until the appropriate medical forms and MSHSL forms have been submitted and the activity fee has been paid.

TRANSPORTATION

The use of private cars to go to and from games/practices/events is generally discouraged. An exception may be granted with HS Principal approval in certain situations. Parents who want to grant permission for their child to take alternative transportation will need a signed HS Principal Transportation Waiver form on file in the High School Office. No students other than squad members, statisticians and managers will be permitted on the bus. All students participating in activities will be picked up and dropped off at the school buildings unless prior arrangements are made. Game buses will stop in Wanamingo after all 7th & 8th grade games unless it is deemed unnecessary.

Participating in overnight trips for curricular, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activities is a privilege. To ensure the safety of the travelling party, participants may be subject to a search of their person or possessions by school administrators prior to boarding the transportation for an overnight trip.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents are expected to encourage their sons or daughters to perform to the best of their ability, including academics. Parents are role models for athletes and representatives of K-W. As such, they are expected to exemplify good attitudes by treating all participants, coaches/advisors, fans, officials and other parents with respect and dignity. Vulgar or denigrating remarks are never appropriate. Parents need to support the concept that coaches/advisors determine playing time or role, while all participants are enjoying the fruits of participation despite the variations in ability. Participants who are doing their best are to be commended despite the outcome of the contest. Parents should attend rules and informational meetings before the appropriate seasons begin.

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES

An activity fee shall be charged for each activity. For high school activities, the fee is \$130. The activity fee for cheerleading is \$90. The fee for junior high school activities is also \$90. There is a \$55 fee for Math League, Knowledge Bowl, Speech, High School Plays, Robotics, and Clay Target Shooting for each activity, as well as any other interscholastic activity. These must be paid before any participation. No refund of activity fees will be made after date of first public appearance of that team. There is a **\$600** cap per family.

Students paying athletic fees are allowed into games for no charge during that season.

BUS RULES

1. Buses cannot wait beyond the scheduled loading time for students.
2. Students should stay off the roadway at all times while waiting for buses.
3. Students should walk in front of a bus when crossing a road.
4. Students should not change seats while the bus is in motion. Keep arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
5. There should be no loud talking, inappropriate language, shouting, throwing objects or yelling in the bus.
6. Any damage to the bus should be reported to the bus driver at once.
7. No fighting, harassment, intimidation, or horseplay on or near the bus or bus stop.
8. Any student defacing or damaging a bus will be required to pay for the damage and may be suspended from riding the bus.
9. Students should help keep the buses clean, sanitary, and orderly.

CATEGORIES OF ACTIVITIES

Category I Activities: Those League-sponsored activities in which a member school has a schedule of interscholastic contests, exclusive of League-sponsored tournaments:

- a. Athletic Activities
- b. Fine Arts Activities
 - 1) Debate
 - 2) Speech activities, including One-Act Play, when a school schedules a season of interscholastic contests

Category II Activities: Those League-sponsored activities in which a member school does not have a schedule of interscholastic contests, exclusive of League-sponsored tournaments:

- a. Fine Arts Activities
 - 1) Speech activities, including One-Act Play, when a school schedules no interscholastic contests and participates only in the League-sponsored tournament series
- b. Music activities
- c. Robotics
- d. Clay Target Shooting

INELIGIBILITY PENALTIES

NOTE: For all Category II violations, the penalties will be the same for those types of activities except for interscholastic events will always be (1) interscholastic event in addition to the minimum number of weeks prescribed by the K-W Board of Education. **No public performances/ participation of any kind will be allowed for any interscholastic event while on suspended time.** Attendance does not constitute performance or participation. These performances do not count towards MSHSL penalties however.

1. First Violation:

Category I: After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next TWO (2) consecutive interscholastic events or TWO (2) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever involves the greater number of contests. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

2. Second Violation:

After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next SIX (6) consecutive interscholastic events or THREE (3) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever involves the greater number of contests. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

3. Third Violation

After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic events or FOUR (4) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever involves the greater number of contests. If after the third or subsequent violations, the student on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, then the student may be certified for reinstatement in MSHSL activities after a minimum period of six weeks. Certification must be issued by the director/counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

Penalties shall be accumulated beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career. To regain your eligibility, you must be actively enrolled in the practice sessions of an organized activity offered at K-W for the specific time period of the infraction. The spirit of this rule implies that the ineligible athlete is a member of the squad in every respect with the exception of participating in MSHSL sponsored events.

Administrative Discretion

While the school district and the school has takes a position on disciplinary consequences via the handbook or accepted policies, the administration, including the superintendent, may use discretions in determining whether, under the circumstances, a course of action other than the minimum consequences specified about is warranted. Administrative discretion cannot be used to modify MSHSL rules and policies. If so, other appropriate action may be taken, including consideration of a recommendation for lesser discipline.