

# **Rib Lake Middle School and High School**



## **Athletic Handbook**

**School Board of Education Policies and Athletic Code Policies  
can be found at [www.riblake.k12.wi.us](http://www.riblake.k12.wi.us)**

## **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the School District of Rib Lake is to provide the highest quality education for every student in a responsive and enriching environment.

## **Philosophy**

Athletics is an integrated part of the total school effort and experience. It is designed to benefit students and build pride in the school and community. The School District of Rib Lake recognizes that participation in a well-directed athletic program will open doors of opportunity and provide certain training and experiences not ordinarily obtainable in the regular (academic) curriculum.

## **Purpose of the Athletic Code**

This code has been prepared for the benefit of the student, parents, advisors, and coaches, and has been approved by the Board of education. The purpose of the code is to:

- Foster good communication (and avoid misunderstanding) among athletes, parents, coaching staff, school administration, and School Board.
- Give guidance to coaching staff in developing programs and carrying out their responsibilities.
- Define expectations and qualification at various competitive levels.
- Serve as a basis for evaluations, goal setting, and program changes.
- Give basis and direction for involvement by school administration and School Board.
- Fulfill the mission of the School District and athletic program.

## **Understanding the Expectations at Each Level of Competition**

Because of the numerous teams and levels of competition within the district, an understanding of each program and its expectations is needed. The following are goals for each level of competition:

### *Middle School Level*

- Fundamentals will be introduced at this level. Other important goals will be introduced at this level such as participation, team spirit, good sportsmanship, and commitment to the team concept. All should participate as equally as possible.

### *Freshman Level*

- Fundamentals will continue to be introduced and enhanced. The concept of plays and strategies will be stressed. Participants will continue to achieve the goals of teamwork, sportsmanship, and commitment to the team concept. All should participate as equally as possible. Freshmen may be allowed to play at a higher level with the following stipulations: 1. Discuss the possibility of advancement with the athletic director and coaching staff. 2. Get approval from the athlete and parent/guardian. 3. Inform team and discuss playing time, peer pressure, and maturity before advancement.

### *Junior Varsity*

- Fundamentals will continue to be a large part of the training, as students become focused on plays and strategies. Continuing to work on fundamentals at this level will assist any participants who fell behind at the lower levels to catch up. Playing time will increase for those participants who are putting forth the effort and desire and decrease for those not.

### *Varsity Level Program*

- Participants at this level train and compete with the goal of winning. Working toward and achieving perfection of skills and teamwork are high on the list of priorities. Confidence, sportsmanship, and many other qualities that are important aspects of life are enhanced at this level of competition. We should encourage cooperation, self-discipline, and team play. At this level the athlete who demonstrates the best all around ability will play and an explanation will be given to others as to what they need to do to become starters or get more playing time. Every effort will be made to allow all participants to take part in game situations.

### **How Concerns Are Handled**

Community members, parent(s), and/or athletes who have a concern about an athletic program or a program their son or daughter is involved in must follow the procedures indicated below. If they do not feel adequate attention is given to the matter, they should proceed to the next step.

- Step 1: Speak to the coach directly involved (Freshman, JV, Varsity, Middle School). The coach involved will inform the head coach and athletic director and principal of the conversation.
- Step 2: Set up a meeting with the coach involved, head coach, athletic director, and the student athlete.
- Step 3: Set up a meeting with the individuals from step 2, plus the District Administrator.
- Step 4: Ask to be heard at the next School Board Meeting, possibly in closed session.

Any discussions involving the above parties will not result in the student/athlete losing playing time unless an infraction results from the Athletic Code. The Athletic Director will monitor this situation.

## **Rib Lake High School and Rib Lake Middle School Athletic Code**

The Rib Lake School District is happy to have you participate in its athletic program. As an integrated part of the total school effort and experience, the program is designed to help our students, community, state, and nation.

We feel that the academic area in our school is of paramount importance. We also believe participation in a well-directed athletic program can open the door to definite opportunities and can afford certain training and experiences not ordinarily obtainable in the regular curriculum. Your trying out for the team indicates awareness on the part of you and your parents of the benefits of this part of our educational program.

The purpose of this athletic code is to provide parents and student participants with a reference to the responsibilities and expectations for those participating in the athletic program.

A student cannot expect special treatment just because he or she is participating in a given sport. We strongly feel it takes a special kind of student to make the sacrifices that the normal school load plus a sport demands. We have come to expect more of such students. Because some students choose to take part in our athletic program, are using facilities provided for that purpose by the community, and are benefiting from tax funds expressly set aside for that purpose by the community, greater demands are made of them. These demands are manifested in the form of specific rules and regulations demanded only of those students who take part in the athletic programs at Rib Lake High School and Rib Lake Middle School.

In this code, you will find eligibility and/or training rules and regulations. They are logical and are designed to help the individual student as well as the total athletic program. They will be enforced. However, the offender will be given a chance to regain eligibility through options provided for in the specific violations.

The Rib Lake School District does not discriminate against pupils involved in extracurricular activities on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap in its education programs or activities.

### **General Rules of Eligibility**

In order to participate in the athletic programs of the Rib Lake School District, a student must meet the following eligibility rules set forth by the local school board:

The student must be in grades 6-12, meet school and DPI requirements defining a full student, meet WIAA requirements for participation, and meet the following requirements for academic eligibility:

#### *High School Student*

- No student may have a failing grade (including incompletes) in any subject during a grade reporting period. Grade reporting periods are the final grades at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. Semester grades do not supersede quarter grades. Grades will be checked two days after they are due in the school office. Any student who receives a failing grade for any grading period will be placed on “Academic Suspension” and will be ineligible for

15 school days during which time grades will be reviewed. If a student has no failing grades, the student may regain eligibility on the 16<sup>th</sup> scheduled school day. If the student has a failing grade in any subject at the end of 15 days, the student will remain on “Academic Suspension” until the student’s grade is raised to passing.

- No student may have two or more failing grades in any subject when mid-term progress reports are generated. Grades will be checked two days after they are due in the school office. If a student has two or more failing grades at that time the student will be placed on “Academic Probation.” If the failing grades are raised to passing after 5 school days, the student will be removed from “Academic Probation.” If the failing grades are not raised to passing after 5 school days, the student will be placed on “Academic Suspension” until the grades are raised to passing.
  - “Academic Probation”-
    - Student is eligible to practice with the team.
    - Student is eligible to compete with the team and travel to away contests.
  - “Academic Suspension”-
    - Student is allowed to practice with the team (with the coach’s permission).
    - Student is expected to attend all home games and sit with the team.
    - Student will not be allowed to participate in any contests.
    - Student will not be allowed to travel with the team or get out of any class time.
    - A student regains eligibility immediately if incompletes are made up within two weeks after a grade-reporting period.
- A student may erase ineligibility status related to the last grade reporting period of the school year through summer school courses (including correspondence courses) at the same or some other school, provided the student successfully completes not less than the same number of courses which caused ineligibility.
- Fall Sports – The minimum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of (1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport or (2) one-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport (rounded up if one-third results in a fraction.)

#### *Middle School Students*

- Students on the weekly D/F list will have a conference with their coach and will be encouraged to get all academic work done in order to have their name removed from the list.
- Any student athlete receiving a failing grade at the end of any grade reporting period will be placed on “Academic Suspension” for 5 school days. Grade reporting periods are the final grades at the end of the 1st Quarter, 2nd Quarter, 3rd Quarter and 4th Quarter. Semester grades do not supersede quarter grades. Grades will be checked two days after they are due in the school office. If the student has a failing grade at the end of 5 days, the student will be placed on “Academic Suspension” for an additional 5 school days and the process repeats itself.
- Any student athlete with two or more failing grades at mid-term progress reports will be placed on “Academic Suspension” for 5 school days. Grades will be checked two days after they are due in the school office. If the student has two or more failing grades at the end of 5 days, the student will be placed on “Academic Suspension” for an additional 5 school days and the process repeats itself.
- Quarter 4 grades will determine fall eligibility with the exception that Middle School 4th quarter grades do not affect High School participation.

- Should a student be in an EEN, (Exceptional Educational Needs) program, that student's IEP (Individual Educational Program), will take precedence over the athletic code. The athletic code will, however, be used as a guideline in the formation of that student's IEP.
- The student must be under age 19 by August of any school year.
- The student must have turned in a completed physical examination permit card prior to any participation, including practice sessions.
- The student is eligible for only 8 successive semesters of high school competition.
- A signed copy of the CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY INFORMATION factsheet, containing the signatures of both the student and at least one parent, must be on file prior to any participation including practice sessions.
- A signed copy of this ATHLETIC CODE CONTRACT containing the signatures of both the student and at least one parent, following a mandatory meeting attended by a parent(s) or guardian (s) and the athlete must be on file prior to engaging in any sport contest or practice related to the code. In lieu of a meeting, students and parents will have the option of viewing an online presentation addressing the Athletic Code.
- A commitment to this policy will become effective when the student and parent complete their signatures on it. This signed contract will be kept on file in the **Athletic Director's** office until the student graduates. A copy of the contract found on the last page of the Athletic Code signifies receipt and knowledge of the Athletic Code and understanding of its contents when signed by both student and parent.
- It is expected that the athlete will abide by the athletic code during the entire year, including all on and off-season time. The code will remain in effect throughout the student's school years.
- Coaches and advisors will review this policy with students at the beginning of each new sport season.

**Each athlete will need to sign a new athletic code each year, as per WIAA rules, before they may practice or participate.**

### **Due Process**

All students have the rights given by due process. The athletic director will enforce the rules of the Athletic Code. A student who desires to appeal a decision of the athletic director shall request a hearing before an athletic council chaired by the principal and composed of two coaches, two teachers, two community members, and a guidance counselor.

The athletic director and the school board president will pick the members of the athletic council in a lottery system.

#### *Level 1: Appeal to the Athletic Council*

The request for a hearing must be in writing and be presented to the principal within five (5) school days after the athletic director's decision is made known to the student. The Athletic Council will convene within five (5) school days of the receipt of the written request.

#### *Level 2: Appeal to the School Board Athletic Committee*

The School Board Athletic Committee is comprised of three members on a floating rotation. The Athletic Council's decision can be appealed to the School Board Athletic Committee. This

request must be in writing and must be presented to the superintendent. This appeal request to the board level committee must be made within five (5) school days of the student being made known of the decision of the Athletic Council. The School Board Athletic Committee will then meet within five (5) days of the written request to do so.

**During the appeals process, athletes will continue to practice only, and not play as per WIAA rules.**

### **Essential Definitions**

#### *Possession*

A possible athletic code violation for possession may be observed and reported by administration, faculty, parents, students and community members. Possession means for the banned substance to be in personal control, an odor on the breath, under the influence, and /or the results of a test to determine whether it is present in the system. These tests can be used to prove innocence as well as guilt.

#### *Banned Substance*

Any controlled substances including alcohol, tobacco, chewing tobacco, vaping products, illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia, non-prescribed drugs, diet pills, over-the-counter medications used in an abusive manner and performance enhancing substances (PES). This also includes any and all copycat drugs and inhalants.

#### *Religious Ceremonies*

Alcohol is a regular part of communion in many churches and is used in services at home and in the Jewish faith as well. This code does not intend to deny those religious practices to any athletes.

#### *Scheduled Competitions*

A scheduled competition will be defined as an event/match/games against a given team on a given day.

<p><b>The use, possession, buying or selling of banned substances is not consistent with the ideals of the athletic programs at Rib Lake Schools and is considered a violation of this Athletic Code.</b></p>
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### **Penalties for an Athletic Code Violation**

#### *First Violation*

- Option A: The student athlete will be suspended for 20% of scheduled competitions.
- Option B: Honesty Option Reduction: Student athletes who admit to violations voluntarily when questioned for the first time by school personnel or administration will receive a lesser consequence compared to those who do not cooperate or attempt to deceive school officials during the first interview. Additionally, student athletes who report their violations to the athletic director of their own volition could, at the discretion of the athletic director, have their suspensions reduced. Under these provisions the student athlete will be suspended for 10% of scheduled competitions (a minimum of one competition). The Honesty Reduction Option is available only on the first offense of the athletic code.

#### *Second Violation*

- Option A: The student athlete will be suspended from the program for 50% of scheduled competitions.
- Option B: A student athlete may have his suspension reduced for a second violation if he/she seeks a minimum of two (2) counseling sessions and completes ten (10) hours of community

service. Counseling must be done with an accredited program. The program must be completed within a specific time, as determined by the counselor. Community service hours must be approved by the athletic director. Community service hours must be completed before eligibility is restored. Upon successful completion of both the counselling and community service components of this provision, the student athlete's suspension would be reduced to 25% of scheduled competitions.

#### *Third Violation*

- The student athlete will be suspended for 12 consecutive months.

#### *Fourth Violation*

- The student athlete will be suspended from all competition for the remainder of their school career.

### **Actions Unbecoming an Athlete**

A student athlete is a representative of the school, the community, their family as well as themselves and is expected to act appropriately at all times. Examples of behaviors that are considered actions unbecoming an athlete include, but are not limited to:

- Violating provisions included in the student handbook
- Vandalism to school or community property
- Fighting on school grounds
- Disrespect to the administration, faculty and staff of the school district (swearing, obscene gestures, not following directions, insubordination, etc.)
- Breaking school district transportation rules
- Violations of civil and criminal law
- Inappropriate posting on social medial, both in and out of school
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Harassment
- Any acts that are believed to reflect poorly on the reputation of the Rib Lake School District.

Actions unbecoming an athlete in or out of school will be handled by the coach involved, the athletic director and the principal. Such actions may be judged to be an Athletic Code Violation and subject to the penalties specified in this code. Other penalties deemed appropriate for the situation may also be enforced.

### **Felony Charges and Convictions**

In accordance with WIAA rules, any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.).

### **Other Provisions**

- Suspensions for athletic code violations at the middle school level do not carry over once the student athlete reaches high school.
- Suspensions will be rounded to the nearest whole number of scheduled competitions.
- Any suspension for an athletic code violation not completed by the end of the season will be prorated and carried over into the next sports season.
- Any student athlete suspended for an athletic code violation needs to complete their entire sports season in good standing. If they quit their sport during the season the entire suspension will need to be served during the next sports season.

- In accordance with WIAA rules, a student athlete who violates any part of the school of WIAA's code of conduct resulting in suspension for any portion of a WIAA-sponsored tournament competition must be immediately declared ineligible for the remainder of the tournament series in that sport. During the WIAA Tournament, an ineligible athlete may not suit up.
- All athletes are expected to observe all team rules as set up by the head coach of their sport.
- In order to participate, an athlete must be in school all day the day of a practice or contest, unless the student is absent due to a school sanctioned activities and/or events, death of an immediate family member, any professional appointment with verified attendance (physician, eye doctor, dentist, chiropractor, mental health counselor, etc), or an absence arranged with the principal ahead of time.
- If a student-athlete receives an unexcused absence, they will not be allowed to play in the next contest.
- To earn a letter, an athlete must finish each sport season in good standing and meet minimum requirements of participation as set forth by each coach.
- If an athlete is found guilty of an athletic code violation after his or her particular sport is completed, they will not be recognized at the team awards night and will receive all awards privately.

WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
**2020-2021 High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin**

To: Student-Athletes and Their Parents

From: Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association and Rib Lake School District

Your high school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. The following rules and regulations are developed by the member schools of the WIAA and govern the participation by boys and girls in school athletics and in some instances, impact upon sports activities outside the school.

This information bulletin is a **summary** of the WIAA OFFICIAL HANDBOOK as it pertains to those rules and regulations. Both student-athletes and their parents should have an understanding of these requirements. Equally important is that student-athletes and/or parents talk to their principal or athletic director if they have any question about these regulations. For additional information on Rules of Eligibility see the WIAA Handbook, or visit the WIAA website at [www.wiaawi.org](http://www.wiaawi.org).

This bulletin does not discuss specific penalties for all violations. The reason is that penalties vary depending upon the nature of the violation. In addition, schools often have established penalties or periods of ineligibility, which are greater than the minimum prescribed by WIAA rules.

There also are exceptions and other permissive provisions in some rules. Student-athletes and their parents should discuss all athletic eligibility related situations with the school principal or athletic director who, if necessary, will get a decision, interpretation, or opinion from the WIAA office.

**Student-athletes, as well as parents are asked to read this bulletin, and then sign it and have their signature statement (attached) on file at their school prior to practicing and competing.**

These are WIAA eligibility rules, which are **current for the 2020-2021 school year**:

**AGE**

A student shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she reaches his/her 19th birthday before August 1 of any given school year.

**ACADEMICS**

A student-athlete must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and have received no more than one failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent school issued grade reporting period. Note: Some member schools adopt code and academic policies and other participation requirements which are more stringent than WIAA minimum requirements. In those instances, the school's requirements prevail and must be applied as written.

**ATTENDANCE**

A student-athlete is eligible for interscholastic competition at a member school if he/she is carried on the attendance rolls as a duly enrolled full-time Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 student in that member school. (Subject to satisfying all other eligibility requirements.)

Note: A full-time student is further defined as one where the member school is responsible for programming 100% of the student's school day. The student is eligible for like or similar awards, privileges and services as all the other students and meets all obligations and responsibilities as other students, without exception.

- A. A student must complete eligibility in the four consecutive years starting with Grade 9 and the three consecutive years starting with Grade 10, unless there are documented extenuating circumstances and a waiver has been provided.
- B. A student is ineligible if he/she has graduated from a school offering studies through Grade 12 or its equivalent.
- C. A student who graduated in May or June retains eligibility for (a) any portion of a spring athletic schedule not completed by the end of the academic year and (b) the school's summer athletic schedule.
- D. A student is ineligible if he/she has not been enrolled in some school by the 17th day of a semester or trimester, except upon request of a school in special cases involving sickness, accident, military service, social services assignment, e.g.
- E. A student-athlete may not participate in school sports in more than four different years, and a student-athlete may not participate in the same sport more than one season each school year.

**DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only at the school within whose attendance boundaries his/her parents reside, within a given school district, with these additional provisions:

- A. Board of Education approved full-time student(s), paying their own tuition and residing full time with parents in their primary residence shall be afforded eligibility. Transfer students are subject to provisions outlined in the transfers section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.
- B. The residence of a student's guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.
- C. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility, except in situations involving transfer after the fourth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the transfer and/or waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook.

D. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state and is enrolled in a district approved program may be eligible at either school (first priority to school of residence) but (a) may not participate at both schools in the same year and (b) academic ineligibility accompanies student upon transfer. Transfer restrictions may also apply.

E. A student whose tuition is paid by the school within whose attendance boundaries parents reside or by the state or who is participating full time in a legislated open enrollment option must meet all statutory timeline requirements. This provision extends the opportunity to decline attendance at the new school and continue at his/her school of residence. If the student begins the school year at the new school and then transfers back to school of residence after attending one or more days of school or one or more athletic practices, he/she shall be subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer Section of this document.

F. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's attendance boundaries, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).

G. After a student-athlete has not participated and/or has had their eligibility restricted for one calendar year due to reasons relating to residence and/or transfer, he/she becomes eligible.

H. A student-athlete will not be eligible if his/her attendance at a particular school resulted from undue influence (special consideration because of athletic ability) on the part of any person.

I. A student-athlete who has been declared ineligible at a school for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons or due to another State Association's provision retains that ineligibility status if he/she transfers to another school.

J. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's sixth consecutive semester, a full-time student whose residence in a given district and attendance at a member school does not conform with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer students are subject to transfer provisions as outlined in the transfer section of this document and in the Senior High Handbook.

#### DETERMINING RESIDENCE FOR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

A full-time student, whether an adult or not, is eligible for varsity interscholastic competition only if the student is residing full time with parents in their primary residence with these additional provisions:

A. In the event of a divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, a student's residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility except in situations involving transfer after a student's fourth consecutive semester. For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year'. Under this rule, a student who transfers after the beginning of the school year shall be ineligible at the new school unless approval is granted by the Board of Control in accordance with the waiver provisions as described in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers. Transfer restrictions may also apply.

B. Residing full time with guardians shall determine eligibility in cases where both parents of a student are deceased. The execution of guardianship papers in situations where one or both parents are living does not by itself make a student eligible.

C. A student may continue being eligible in the same school even though parent(s) and/or student move from within that school's traditional attendance area, provided enrollment is continuous (unbroken in that school).

D. A student who has been in attendance in a nonpublic, self-contained school (i.e. grades K-12 or 7-12) for at least one complete school year prior to reaching Grade 9 and has not broken enrollment during that time is eligible in that nonpublic school upon entering Grade 9.

E. Except in situations involving mid-year transfer and/or transfer after the fourth consecutive semester students attending member residential schools shall be eligible at the member school provided they reside at the school or reside full time with parents in their primary residence.

F. Except in situations involving transfer after a student's sixth consecutive semester, a full-time student attending a nonpublic school but not residing in accordance with any of the provisions outlined above shall be eligible for nonvarsity competition only, for one calendar year, unless a waiver is provided as outlined in the WIAA HS Handbook under Waivers.

#### TRANSFERS

A full-time student may be afforded up to eight consecutive semesters of interscholastic eligibility upon entry into Grade 9. **Transferring schools at any time may result in restrictions being imposed on eligibility, or in some cases a denial of eligibility.** For the purpose of this rule, attendance at one day of school and/or attendance at one athletic practice shall determine 'beginning of school year.' These additional provisions relate to transfer cases:

A. A student who transfers from any school into a member school after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into Grade 9 shall be ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year, but may practice, unless the transfer is made necessary by a total and complete change in residence by parent(s). The calendar year (365 days) will be determined from a student's first day of attendance at the new school.

B. Students entering 9th and/or 10th grade at the beginning of the school year and who are within the first four consecutive semesters of high school will be afforded unrestricted eligibility provided all other rules governing student eligibility are met.

C. Students entering 11th grade are restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year.

D. Students entering 12th grade as transfer students are ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.

E. 9th grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for the remainder of the school year. Restrictions are removed upon entering 10th grade.

F. 10th or 11<sup>th</sup> grade students who transfer after the beginning of the school year and with written consent from both schools directly involved shall be restricted to nonvarsity opportunities for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school).

G. In the event of divorce or legal separation, whether pending or final, residence at the beginning of the school year shall determine eligibility for students entering 9th and/or 10th grade. In situations involving transfer after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.

H. District policies with respect to intra-district transfer do not supercede WIAA transfer rules in situations involving post-sixth semester transfers. Intra-district transfers occurring after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 result in the student being ineligible for competition at any level for one calendar year (365 days beginning with first day of attendance at the new school), but may practice.

I. Unless transfer, including an accompanying total and complete change of parents' residence, is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the fifth calendar day of such transfer.

J. If within the first six consecutive semesters following entry into grade 9, a student who transfers more than once in any given school year shall be ineligible for all interscholastic competition for the remainder of that current school year and will be eligible for nonvarsity opportunities only for the balance of the calendar year. In situations involving transfer after the sixth consecutive semester following entry into grade 9 the student is ineligible to compete at any level for one calendar year, but may practice.

K. A student may not have eligibility in more than one member school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, to a secondary residence within another school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total and complete move.

L. A student who transfers from any school, whether or not a member school, with a status of ineligibility for disciplinary reasons, academic reasons and/or as a result of another State Association's regulation or sanction, retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school. A student who transfers due to expulsion or removal for disciplinary reason from the previous school is ineligible for the length of the expulsion as determined by the previous school's Board of Education.

M. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

#### **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION and PARENT'S PERMISSION**

A student-athlete whether an adult or not, must have written permission of parents to participate in school athletics, an emergency information form, and he/she must have a physical examination (signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or advanced practice nurse prescriber) every other school year.

A physical examination taken April 1 and thereafter is valid for the following two school years. Physical examination taken before April 1 is valid only for remainder of that school year and the following school year.

#### **TRAINING and CONDUCT**

A student-athlete must follow his/her school's code of conduct (training rules) on a year-round basis.

A. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct during the season of a sport (start of practice to final game) must be suspended from competition for a period of time specified in the code (minimum of one meet) if the violation involves (a) possession and/or use of alcohol, (b) possession and/or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco and (c) use, possession, buying or selling of controlled substances, street drugs and performance enhancing substances (PES).

B. The member school will determine minimum penalties for violation of any other provisions of its code of conduct, including out of season offenses and for any other unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principals and standards of the school and this Association including but not limited to criminal behavior.

C. Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.).

D. A student-athlete who violates his/her school's code of conduct at times other than during the actual season of a sport must be disciplined by the school, the nature of such discipline to be determined by the school as indicated in its code of conduct.

E. A student-athlete who violates any part of the school or WIAA's code of conduct resulting in suspension for any portion of WIAA-sponsored tournament competition must be immediately declared ineligible for the remainder of tournament series in that sport. During the WIAA Tournament, an ineligible athlete may not suit up.

F. A student-athlete, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is also suspended from the next competitive event at the same level of competition as the disqualification.

G. Any player who in the judgment of the official, intentionally spits on, strikes, slaps, kicks, pushes or aggressively physically contacts an official at any time shall be immediately ineligible for competition a minimum of 90 calendar days from the date of the confrontation. In addition, the player is ineligible to compete for the first 25% of the next season in that same sport.

H. A school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to a penalty being enforced (except for felony charges). If a student appeals a suspension, according to the school's appeal procedure, the student is ineligible during the appeal process.

I. Schools/individuals are prohibited during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series from practicing for regional, sectional, and state tournament preparation at sites and facilities hosting WIAA tournaments.

#### **AMATEUR STATUS**

A student-athlete must be an amateur in all recognized sports of this association in order to compete in any WIAA sport.

A. A student-athlete may not accept, receive or direct to another, reimbursement in any form of salary, cash or share of game or season proceeds for athletic accomplishments, such as being on a winning team, being selected for the school varsity team, or being a place winner in an individual tournament, e.g.

- B. A student-athlete may receive: a medal, cup, trophy or plaque from the sponsoring organization regardless of cost; school mementos valued not more than \$200; an award valued not more than \$100 retail for participation in an athletic contest in a WIAA recognized sport; and may retain non-school competition apparel worn by the student as part of the team uniform.
- C. A student-athlete may not receive compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete because of ability, potential and/or performance as an athlete.
- D. A student-athlete may not receive free and/or reduced rates on equipment, apparel, camps/clinics/instruction and competitive opportunities that are not identical for any and all interested students.
- E. A student-athlete may not be identified (with or without permission) as an athlete, provide endorsement as an athlete or appear as an athlete in the promotion of a commercial/advertisement and/or profit-making event, item, plan, or service.
- F. A student-athlete may not participate in school athletics or in sports activities outside the school under a name other than his/her own name.

### **SPORTS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**

Athletes may compete in not more than two non-school competitions with prior school approval during each regular sport season. The contest(s) will not count against the individual maximum for the athlete in that sport. Nonschool competition will not be allowed during the respective WIAA tournament series in a sport. Violation of this rule results in loss of eligibility for the remainder of the season (including the WIAA tournament series) and forfeiture of the two non-school opportunities.

- A. WIAA rules do not prevent athletes from practicing with nonschool teams or from receiving private skills instruction during the school season. However, they may not participate officially or unofficially (including “banditing”) in more than two nonschool competitions or races, including scrimmages against other teams (with school approval).
  - (1) This restriction applies to normal nonschool games as well as “gimmicks,” such as reduced numbers competition (3-on-3 basketball, 6 player soccer, e.g.), specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests, free throws, 3 point, e.g.), fun runs, etc.
  - (2) During the season, athletes may participate in a skills contest with approval of the school. Specific skill contests (punt, pass, and kick, shooting contests e.g., free throws, 3 point, drive, chip and putt) isolate separate skills outside of the traditional competition setting. The skill contest may not include physical contact or extreme fatigue as the actual sport competition. Fun runs are not considered skills contests. There can be no school coach involvement. All other eligibility rules including amateur status apply.
  - (3) A student who was a member of a school team during the previous year may not delay reporting for the school team beyond the school’s official opening day of practice in order to continue nonschool training and/or competition.
- B. During the school year before and/or after the school season of a sport and in the summertime, members of a school’s team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates (without school and/or school coach involvement) at their own discretion.
- C. A student-athlete or his/her parents must pay 100% of the fee for specialized training or instruction such as camps, clinics, and similar programs.
- D. A student-athlete may not be instructed except during the school season of a sport and approved summer contact days by the person who will be his/her coach in that sport in the following school season. All sports except football are exempt from this rule, BUT only (a) during the summer months and (b) if the program involved is not limited to individuals who are likely to be candidates for the school team in that sport in the following season.
- E. A student-athlete must not participate in an all-star game or similar contest except for summertime activities (a) within the same league or program (e.g., softball game between divisions of same league) or (b) in which a team is selected to represent a league in post-season play (e.g., Babe Ruth league team). Some post-season all-star opportunities may be permitted for 12th graders who have completed high school eligibility in a particular sport. Check with your Athletic Director to be certain.
- F. Schools/individuals are prohibited during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series from practicing for regional, sectional, and state tournament preparation at sites and facilities hosting WIAA tournaments.

### **USE OF STUDENT IMAGE**

The participation of student-athletes in school and WIAA tournaments may result in the use of student-athlete images in promotion of school and WIAA events.

***In order to facilitate good communication, all questions regarding athletic participation at your school should be addressed to your athletic administrator.***

4/2020



**RIB LAKE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CODE  
CONTRACT  
WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin  
SIGN-OFF FORM**

I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the information contained in the **Rib Lake Athletic Code and the WIAA High School Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin. I understand that this contract will be in effect during the entire year, including summer, and both active, and inactive sport seasons.** I further certify that if I have not understood any information contained in this document, I have sought and received an explanation of the information prior to signing this statement. **I understand and will abide by this athletic code.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student-Athlete's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This form must be completed and submitted to the Athletic Director prior to a student being declared eligible to practice and compete. This contract will be kept on file in the athletic director's office.**