

TO THE ATHLETE:

Participation in athletics at Brown County High School is a privilege that offers students many opportunities and valuable benefits. To take advantage of these opportunities, athletes should commit themselves to the goals that they, their teammates and coaches share. This commitment should not be viewed as a part-time or temporary situation, but rather a continued, year-round pursuit which athletes may find quite demanding and challenging.

Any athlete, regardless of his or her sport affiliation and level of competition, must be willing to make certain sacrifices. As an athlete at Brown County High School, you will discover this to be most certainly true. We believe, however, that the rewards of interscholastic athletic competition far outweigh the personal sacrifices that you will make and the additional demands and responsibilities that will be placed upon you as an athlete.

It is our sincere desire that your athletic experience at Brown County High School be enjoyable and fulfilling. Furthermore, we believe that with substantial effort, dedication, commitment, and discipline, you will leave this school a better person for having participated in high school athletics. Regardless of the outcome of a contest or a season, those individuals who possess a sense of purpose and work diligently to achieve that purpose are in the true sense of the word **WINNERS!**

Brian Garman
Director of Athletics

ATHLETIC COUNCIL

The Athletic Council consists of the principal, athletic director, and all varsity head coaches. The primary responsibility of the Athletic Council will be to administer the guidelines and policies that have been established in the Brown County High School Athletic Handbook.

ELIGIBILITY

SCHOLASTIC

IHSAA policy - To be eligible scholastically, students must have received passing grades and earned credit at the end of their last grading period is school in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take and must be currently enrolled in at least seventy percent (70%) of the maximum number of full credit subjects (or the equivalent) that a student can take. Semester grades take precedence.

Student managers who are determined to be academically ineligible are prohibited from performing any managerial duties during the period of ineligibility.

Maximum Classes	4	5	6	7	8
Must Pass	3	4	5	5	6

Athletes are encouraged to consult the athletic director or school counselor with questions regarding the status of classes as "full credit". *The official certification date submitted to the IHSAA shall serve as the day that eligibility is determined.*

STUDENT ATHLETE ACTIVITY FEE

Each athlete will be required to pay a yearly activity fee of \$30.00 and a corporation transportation fee of \$20.00. 100% of activity fee money is returned to the athletes in the form of uniforms, awards, first aid supplies, etc. Athletes who fail to pay by the established deadline will not be able to compete until they have paid the fee. An all sports pass will be issued to each athlete when the activity fee is collected.

CONSENT/RELEASE FORM

Each athlete is to have on file with the Athletic Director an IHSAA physical evaluation/consent and release form which has been thoroughly completed and signed by the athlete, the parent or guardian, and the doctor. The athlete is ineligible and shall not begin practice until the completed form is in the possession of the athletic director or the coach.

A physical exam given on or after May 1 shall be valid for the next school year.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

The following eligibility rules are reprinted with permission from the IHSAA:

You are **ineligible** if:

1. AGE

- A student who is or shall be 20 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be ineligible for interschool athletic competition in that sport. See the athletic director for tournament dates.

2. AMATEURISM

- You play under an assumed name.
- You accept money or merchandise directly or indirectly from athletic participation.
- You sign a professional contract in that sport.

3. AWARDS/GIFTS

- You receive in recognition for your athletic ability any award not approved by your high school principal or the IHSAA.
- You use or accept merchandise as an award, prize, gift or loan or purchase such for a token sum.
- You accept awards, medals, recognition, gifts, and honors from colleges/universities or their alumni.

4. CONDUCT/CHARACTER

- You conduct yourself in or out of school in a way which reflects discredit on your school or the IHSAA.
- You create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral and educational environment in your school.

5. ENROLLMENT

- You did not enroll in school during the first 15 days of a semester.
- You have been enrolled more than four consecutive years or the equivalent (e.g. 8 semesters or 12 tri-mesters, etc.) beginning with grade 9.
- You have represented a high school in a sport more than 4 years.

6) ILLNESS/INJURY

- You are absent five or more consecutive school days due to illness or injury and do not present to your principal written verification from a physician licensed to practice medicine stating that you may resume participation.

7) PARTICIPATION

a) During contest season:

- You participate in try-outs or demonstrations of athletic ability in that sport as a prospective college student-athlete.
- You participate in a practice with or against players not belonging to your school.

- You participate as an individual on any team other than your school team.
- You participate as an individual without following the criteria for the outstanding student athlete.
- You attend a non-school camp.
- You attend and participate in a student-clinic.

b) During School Year - Out-of-Season

- You participate in a team sport contest as a member of a non-school team where there are more than the following number of students listed below in each sport who have participated the previous year in a contest as a member of their school team in that sport.

Basketball - 3 Baseball - 5 Football - 6

Volleyball - 3 Softball - 5 Soccer - 6

- You receive instruction in team sports from individuals who are members of your high school coaching staff. (Exception: open facility)

c) During summer

- You attend a non-school camp and/or clinic for fall sports after Monday of Week 4 (see your coach or the Athletic Director for specific dates, or if you plan on attending an out-of-state camp).
- You attend any other non-school camp or clinic after Monday of Week 5 (see your coach or the Athletic Director for specific dates).

8. PRACTICE

- You have not completed *the required number of separate days* of organized practice in a sport under the direct supervision of the high school coaching staff preceding participation in a contest.

9. SCHOLARSHIP

- You did not pass and earn credit in **at least seventy percent of maximum number of full credit subjects that a student can take**. Semester grades take precedence.
- You are not currently enrolled in **seventy percent of the maximum number of full credit subjects that a student can take**.

10. ATHLETIC PHYSICAL

- You do not have the completed certificate on file with your principal each school year, between May 1 and your first practice.

11. TRANSFER

You transfer from one school to another primarily for athletic reasons.

You were not enrolled in your present high school your last semester or at a junior high school from which your high school received its students unless:

- a) You are entering the 9th grade for the first time.
- b) You are transferring from a school district or territory with a bona fide move by your parents.
- c) You are a ward of the court.
- d) You are an orphan.
- e) You transfer to reside with a parent.

f) Your former school closed.

g) Your former school is not accredited by the state accrediting agency in the state where the school is located.

h) Your transfer was pursuant to school board mandate for redistricting

i) You enrolled and/or attended, in error, at wrong school.

j) You transferred from a correctional school.

k) You are emancipated.

l) You did not participate in any contests as a representative of another school during the preceding 365 days.

m) You return to an IHSAA member school from a non-member school and reside with the same parent/s or guardian/s.

n) You transfer to a member boarding school with a corresponding move from the residence of your parent/s or you transfer from a member boarding school with a corresponding move to the residence of your parent/s.

o) You are a foreign exchange student attending under an approved CSIET program.

12. UNDUE INFLUENCE

- You have been influenced by any person to retain or secure you as a student or one or both parents or guardians as residents.

IF YOU CANNOT CHECK ALL 10 RULES BELOW, SEE YOUR ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:

1. You will not have turned 20 years old on or before the scheduled dates of the IHSAA State Finals in the sport in which you are competing.
2. You are currently enrolled in and currently passing in 6 full credit subjects.
3. You have had a physical examination between May 1 and your first practice each year.
4. You have filed with your Athletic Director the Consent and Release Certificate which has been signed by your parent/s or guardian/s.
5. You have not changed schools without a corresponding move by your parent/s or guardian/s.
6. You have not participated in non-school contests in your sport after having reported for your school team.
7. You have never dropped out of school.
8. You have had the required number of practices in your sport preceding participation in a contest.
9. You enrolled in your school during the first 15 days of a semester.
10. You have never received money or merchandise directly or indirectly for your athletic participation.

RULES AND POLICIES

All athletes will be expected to adhere to Indiana High School Athletic Association rules and regulations and to the policies and standards established in the Brown

County High School Student Handbook and Athletic Handbook. *Each coach has the privilege and is encouraged to establish additional policies that may not be covered by the Athletic Handbook.*

CONDUCT/BEHAVIOR

Within the school and community setting, athletes are highly visible and therefore intensely scrutinized. It is essential then that an athlete's conduct and language, regardless of time or place, always demonstrate respect for his or her peers, superiors, opponents and officials. Behavior and/or language that is deemed inappropriate will only discredit or embarrass the athlete, and his or her teammates, coaches, school and community. **It is recognized that principals, by the administrative authority vested in them by their school corporation, may exclude any contestant from representing their school, if their conduct is undesirable. Any athlete who is ejected from a contest by a contest official shall be suspended for the next contest. Any athlete who demonstrates a pattern of inappropriate behavior may be suspended for the remainder of a season, year, or career.**

Fundamentals of Sportsmanship

1. Show respect for your opponents at all times.
2. Always respect the contest officials and abide by their decisions.
3. Know, understand and appreciate the rules of the contest in which you are competing.
4. Maintain self control at all times, regardless of the situation.
5. Recognize and appreciate the skill in performance of your teammates and opponents.

CLASSROOM/SCHOOL CONDUCT

Athletes should abide by the rules set forth in the Brown County High School Student handbook. At all times, athletes should respect their fellow students and all faculty and staff members.

CONDUCT ON ROAD TRIPS

As a representative of your school and community, you will be expected to behave appropriately on the bus, at the opposing school or contest site and in all public places. **Inappropriate conduct or language may result in suspension or probation at the coach's discretion.**

PRACTICE

Practice dates and practice times will be established by coaches:

- Practice attendance is essential. Each coach will be responsible for establishing rules governing practice attendance.
- Most practice sessions are closed to the public, and athletes from other teams are not to be in the gym during a practice.

LOCKERS/LOCKS

- Athletes are responsible for keeping their locker areas clean. Practice clothes should be taken home and washed regularly. Glass containers are not allowed in the locker area.
- Athletes may be issued a school lock. A **\$5.00** deposit will be collected prior to issuing a lock. Athletes are expected to return the lock in good working condition at the end of the season or school year. The \$5.00 deposit will be returned if the lock is in good working condition. Personal locks are not to be used on school lockers.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

An athlete who is not in attendance for at least three periods during the school day will not be permitted to participate in a practice or a contest that evening. Exceptions may be made, however, that must be decided by the principal or athletic director.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A student who is physically unable due to injury or illness to participate in his or her physical education class shall not be permitted to practice or compete with his or her team.

INJURIES/ILLNESSES

A student-athlete shall attend 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 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.

INTERPRETATION:

Days Missed	# of Practices Required
5 to 10	4
More than 10 consecutive	6

SUPERVISION

Athletes are not to be in either gym, weight room, or any athletic facility unless under the direct supervision of their coach. All practice sessions are to be supervised by their coach.

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS

A considerable sum of money has been invested in athletic equipment and uniforms. Athletes will be responsible for paying the replacement cost of any lost, stolen or damaged item of equipment or uniform. School owned uniforms and equipment should be used or worn for athletic purposes only. Other uses require special permission from the coach. Some items that are issued and kept by athletes, such as baseball/softball caps, t-shirts, practice gear, etc. will be the expense of the athlete. All school issued uniforms and equipment **MUST** be returned at the conclusion of that season. Athletes will held financially responsible for items that are not turned in, whether lost or stolen.

LAUNDERING

Athletes who are responsible for laundering their uniforms should follow precisely the instructions on the uniform label or ask their coach for laundering instructions.

SHOES

Shoes with metal spikes or rubber cleats are not to be worn in the building or on the buses. They should be put on outside and removed before entering the building. Only clean gym shoes are allowed on the gym floor. Athletes are to keep a pair of shoes at school to be worn during practice. Gym shoes that have been worn outside

are not to be worn on the gym floor!

TRANSPORTATION

When games, meets or tournaments are away from home, all athletes are required to go with the team and coaches (by bus, van or other means of transportation).

Athletes may return home with parents or other adults only with the prior written, phoned, or verbal consent of the parents and the approval of the coach. However, athletes are encouraged to travel with the team to and from all contests, and should respect the coach's decision should he or she not approve the athlete's request to ride home with his or her parents.

INSURANCE

- A. Brown County High School expects each athlete to have accident insurance before participating in activities.
- B. All Brown County High School students may purchase school accident insurance which is available at the beginning of each school year.
- C. Brown County High School **will not** pay any expenses related to injuries sustained by athletic participants.
- D. Football participants may purchase special insurance for coverage in that sport.
- E. A Catastrophic Insurance Policy is purchased yearly by the IHSAA.

SWITCHING SPORTS

An athlete who begins a sport season with one team may not leave that team and join another after the date of the 1st contest in each respective sport. Athletes are not to begin participation in an upcoming sport until the sport they are currently involved in officially ends or until they are released by their coach to commence participation in the other sport.

Example: a cross country runner deciding to play basketball may not begin participating with the basketball program until his season is officially over or until he has been released by his coach.

TWO SPORTS - SAME SEASON

An athlete who desires to participate in more than one sport in a season may do so provided that both coaches of the sports involved and the Athletic Director agree to the dual participation.

AWARDS

Here are the recommended minimum standards for determining award recipients. Awards will be based upon these standards and/or the coach's recommendation. Any athlete listed on a varsity roster who does not receive a varsity letter is still eligible to receive a reserve or freshman award. Athletes who fail to meet the minimum standards may still receive varsity awards at the discretion of their coaches. A coach may recommend an athlete who has been injured during the season for a

varsity award.

Any athlete who quits a team at any point during a season will forfeit all athletic awards and participation points. Athletes who are suspended or become ineligible for other reasons may forfeit their awards as well.

Baseball - Participation in 25% of available innings.

Basketball - Participation in 25% of available quarters.

Cross Country - Run in and finish 85% of the scheduled meets and/or run in the sectional.

Football - Participation in 33% of available quarters.

Golf - Based on a 33pt. system. (see Coach Baughman)

Tennis - Compete in 3 varsity matches.

Track - Average 1 point per meet.

Volleyball - Participation in 50% of matches.

Soccer - Play in 50% of the scheduled games.

Softball - Participation in 25% of innings.

Wrestling - Based on a 60pt. system. (see Coach Bruner)

Managers - Managers will be held to the same attendance requirement as athletes, and in order to earn a varsity letter should be present at all practices and contests.

Statisticians - A statistician must attend every contest and may be eligible for a varsity award in the second year of work.

An athlete may earn only one award per sport per season. For instance, a football player who plays both reserve and varsity will be awarded a reserve or a varsity

award, but not both.

AWARD SYSTEM

Before an athlete may be considered for an award and participation points, he/she must successfully complete the sport season. It will be the responsibility of the coaches to recommend athletes for awards.

Freshman Award: Certificate and 1 participation point.

Reserve Award: Certificate, chenille numerals, and 2 participation points.

Varsity Award (first): Chenille block "BC", certificate, sport emblem, insert bar, 4 participation points.

Varsity Award (same sport): Certificate, insert bar, 4 participation points.

Varsity Award (another sport): Certificate, sport emblem, insert bar, 4 participation points.

LETTER JACKET

To be eligible to receive a letter jacket an athlete must have accumulated 10 participation points and must have been awarded at least one varsity letter. In addition to the participation points earned from the varsity, reserve or freshman awards, athletes may earn participation points through academic achievement (1 point per semester - maximum of 5 total). Academic achievement points will be awarded based on the following criteria:

1. Athlete is listed on a team roster during the

semester.

2. Athlete has obtained a GPA of at least 3.0 with no failing grades in any classes (including study hall).

The athlete will be financially responsible for the purchase of the jacket and should order the jacket through the Athletic Department. In case of financial hardship, an alternative means of purchase will be pursued. The chenille block "BC" letter is to be worn only on a jacket the athlete has earned through the Awards System and ordered through the athletic director.

CHEERLEADERS

Varsity and reserve cheerleaders will be recognized for their efforts at the completion of the winter sports season.

SPECIAL AWARDS

SENIOR PLAQUES: Each senior who has participated for at least 3 years in a sport, with one of those years being the senior year, shall receive a plaque.

4 YEAR LETTERMAN AWARD: Each athlete who letters in any one sport for four consecutive years will receive this award.

DISTINGUISHED ATHLETE AWARD: Any athlete who accumulates 40 participation points or earns 9 varsity letters shall be awarded a blanket and a lifetime sports pass to Brown County High School.

GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD: The most prestigious award presented by the Athletic Department is the Golden Eagle Award. This award is presented annually to a senior male and female student athlete. The recipients are determined by a vote of the voting members of the Athletic Council. Recommendations for this award are based on the following:

1. The student must possess a *GPA*. of no less than 2.75.
2. The student must have earned a varsity letter in more than one sport.
3. The student must have exhibited qualities such as sportsmanship, leadership, and a competitive spirit.

CHENILLE PATCHES: The school will purchase and present chenille patches to athletes who:

1. were members of a varsity team that won a conference championship, sectional, regional, semi-state or state championship.
2. won a sectional, regional, semi-state or state title in an individual sport.
3. were named to an all-conference or AP/UPI All-State 1st team.

Athletes desiring other patches may, with the approval of the Athletic Director, purchase them through the Athletic Department.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

Parents, guardians and related adults with qualified students participating in extra-curricular programs should serve as role-models and ambassadors for the programs at Brown County High School. Inherent in this condition is behavior that is not only appropriate but also prideful and exemplary.

Parents/guardians who have concerns and wish to speak with a coach will be expected to call the athletic department to schedule an appointment with the coach. Making contact with a coach prior to, during, or following an event to discuss a coaching concern is strongly discouraged.

COLLEGE BOUND ATHLETES

Any high school athlete who wishes to participate in NCAA Division I or II sports must be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse and should start the certification process by the end of the junior year.

To obtain more information and a copy of the student release form, see your guidance counselor or athletic director.

TRAINING RULES

Members of the athletic staff at Brown County High School are committed to enhancing the health and well being of our student athletes. Athletes who use tobacco products and/or controlled substances are jeopardizing their health as well as the health and safety of their teammates and opponents.

One of our missions is to encourage our student athletes to live a lifestyle that does not involve the use of harmful and illegal substances. To assist in this effort the following policies addressing the use of tobacco products and controlled substances have been implemented.

TOBACCO - involves the use or possession of any type of tobacco products *on or off* school grounds.

1. First offense - suspension for 10% of the regularly scheduled contests at the level of participation. Athletes who agree to participate in and successfully complete a four week tobacco cessation course offered through BCHS will not be required to serve the 10% suspension. This applies to the first offense only.
2. Each subsequent offense - suspension for 30% of the regularly scheduled contests at the level of participation.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - violation involves the use, possession or transmission of any narcotic or

hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, steroid, mood altering chemical or intoxicant of any kind including alcohol. School officials are required by Indiana Law (I.C. 35-48-4) to report in writing to a law enforcement officer any conduct involving drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages that occurs on or within 1000 feet of school grounds. See the Brown County High School Handbook Day Planner for more information.

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. The athlete will be suspended for **20%** of the regularly scheduled contests. (This includes IHSAA Tournament Contests)
2. The suspension shall be reduced to 10% if the athlete and his/her parent/guardian provide proof that the athlete has secured counseling with an individual possessing the appropriate CADAC (Certified Alcohol Drug Abuse Counselor) credentials.
3. An athlete who fails to complete the program prescribed by the counselor will be suspended for 20% of the scheduled contests.
4. All suspensions will be carried over to the next season of athletic participation.

SECOND OFFENSE:

Suspension for one calendar year from athletic participation.

THIRD OFFENSE:

Suspension from athletic participation for remainder of high school career.

The school will NOT be responsible for the costs incurred in the counseling programs and/or prescribed treatment plan.

FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR CHARGE - the Athletic Council will review each case and render a decision. **All training violations and subsequent consequences hinge on information obtained from law enforcement officials, observation by Athletic Council members, school administrators, other school officials, or by admission by the athlete.**

Policies involving tobacco and controlled substances are in effect during the school year and also in the summer. Violations and suspensions are carried over from one sports season to the next and from one school year to another.

--An athlete found in violation of the policies during a time when he/she is not participating in a sport will have the suspension applied to the next sport in which he/she participates in full and successfully

APPEAL PROCESS:

An athlete who has been suspended due to a violation of the handbook or a violation of team rules may, within five

days of the notification of the suspension, request a conference. In attendance should be the athlete, his/her parents or guardians, the athletic director and two additional members of the athletic council. After the conference, the three members of the athletic council will decide to either support the suspension or to pass the matter on to the principal, whose decision will be final. The athlete's parents may request a meeting with the principal if they disagree with the decision rendered by the three members of the athletic council.

Mission Statement

Brown County High School is a partnership of caring and conscientious, professional educators who will inspire, challenge, encourage, and empower all students to achieve their highest academic excellence. We will endeavor to develop in all students a sense of self-worth, aesthetic appreciation, and cultural awareness. We will strive to promote intellectual thought, physical well-being, and emotional growth in all students. We will provide all students with skills necessary to be productive, responsible, and respectful citizens.

Members of the school community share our responsibility to cultivate lifelong learning, peace, democracy, order, and progress in a changing and highly technical global society.

Belief Statement

Education is one of the most valued treasures our country. Formal schooling is not only very desirable, but absolutely essential for the conservation of the American society and democratic ideals. In conjunction with the school community, Brown County High School accepts the responsibility of preparing young minds to make good decisions that will allow them to be productive citizens in a global society. Each student will be challenged to reach

his or her fullest academic, social, emotional, and physical potential.

The State of Indiana places education at the top of its priorities. Accordingly, it is incumbent upon this school to use every reasonable measure to instill dutiful attendance habits, promote positive behavior patterns, and develop a complete person in every student. A day lost in the classroom can never be completely retrieved; in other words, the opportunity in the classroom can never be effectively duplicated. We believe a correlation exists between formal learning and school attendance.

GOALS:

Before students graduate from Brown County High School, we expect them to acquire the following traits and abilities:

- 1) Knowledge of the basic facts, principles, and ideas in the various areas of the curriculum.
- 2) Marketable skills in their chosen occupation.
- 3) The knowledge and skills needed for post-secondary education.
- 4) The knowledge and skills needed by our society's advancing technology.