

BLACK HAWK MS/HS
7-12 ATHLETICS and ACTIVITIES CODE
2026-2027

Philosophy

Participation in extra-curricular activities provide a significant extension of the educational experience for Black Hawk students. Athletics and other extra-curricular activities provide opportunities difficult to duplicate in the classroom setting. To ensure that these activities complement Black Hawk's mission, this code emphasizes the following:

- a. In addition to representing themselves, students represent their school, their community, their fellow students, and their families.
- b. Participation in the activities is a privilege which carries certain responsibilities.

In an effort to outline these responsibilities, the Black Hawk School Activity Code establishes the following:

- a. An activities participant must adhere to the academic and training rules set forth in this code.
- b. All students involved in extra-curricular activities and a parent are required to sign a pledge sheet before the student may participate in any activity.
- c. Enforcement of this hand book is the responsibility of the school, parents, and students on a YEAR ROUND BASIS.
- d. This code is enforced on a six year basis and violations accumulate throughout the entire duration of a student's attendance at Black Hawk M.S./H.S.

School Attendance and Activities Participation

- Practice - students need to be in attendance at school for a minimum of 4 periods. If a student needs to miss more than 4 periods due to a scheduled doctor's, dentist's, or therapist appointment ; the student will make a prudent return to school and include an official notice from the practitioner's office. No other reasons for missing school (such as hair cuts, parental excuse) will be acceptable for a student to practice. School-sponsored field trips do not count for this provision. Prior approval from the building principal can be given for missed school and practicing. 24 hours minimum notice is the acceptable guideline for prior approval.

- Contests/Games (Saturday games) - students need to be in attendance at school the entire day of competition. If a contest is scheduled for Saturday, a student must be in attendance a full day on the preceding Friday, unless it is an excused absence due to illness and the student is fully recovered by Saturday. If a student needs to miss school on the day of competition due to a scheduled doctor's, dentist's, or therapist appointment ; the student will make a prudent return to school and include an official notice from the practitioner's office. School-sponsored field trips do not count for this provision. Prior approval from the building principal can be given for missed school and practicing. 24 hours minimum notice is the acceptable guideline for prior approval.

Academic Eligibility

Academic Standards For Participation and After School Course Assistance Attendance
At Black Hawk High School, we believe that participation in activities and sports plays a crucial role in developing well-rounded and responsible citizens. Our foremost commitment is to provide a strong educational foundation that equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary for their future success. Balancing extracurricular involvement with academic excellence ensures that our students are prepared to excel both in their personal lives and future careers.

- Student academic performance will be tracked weekly.
- Teachers will report grades on Mondays of each week (starting with the second week in September). Students and families who are earning a F academic mark will be notified and student will be placed in Flex and after-school academic assistance.
- Student-activities participants, placed in academic assistance, must attend the academic assistance with the teacher of the failing course, or if not available, a comparable teacher. **The student may not attend practice until 4:00 p.m.** If a student has a late practice (Ex., 5:30 p.m. start), they are still required to participate in after school academic assistance until 4:00 p.m.
- Academic Ineligibility
 1. 2 consecutive weeks listed as failing a course: Student is ineligible for participation in contests or games until passing all coursework. Students will attend after school academic assistance. Students can still practice and can still attend contests/games but cannot be dressed in official team uniform or attire.
 2. 3 consecutive weeks listed as failing a course: Student is ineligible for participation in contests or games until passing all coursework. Students will attend after school academic assistance. Students can still practice, but students will not be allowed to travel/attend with the

team/organization or be involved in any team activities during that contest/game.

3. 4 weeks or more listed as failing a course: Student is ineligible for participation in contests or games until passing all coursework. **Students are not allowed to attend practices, and students are not allowed to travel or attend any team activities.** Full efforts by student should be directed towards improving academic performance.
4. Students regain full eligibility when they are passing all coursework.
5. Coaches maintain the right to dismiss a student from the team, if a student cannot meet academic requirements beyond a fifth consecutive week of ineligibility.
6. **WIAA Academic Ineligibility**: Students will not be allowed to participate in competitions, performances or other meetings or activities for a minimum of 15 calendar days beginning on the Monday following the posting of grades at the conclusion of a grading term, if they have failed more than one course. Grades are considered “posted” when they are received by the Activities Director from the Student Services Office. End of grading terms are:
 - **1st Quarter - October 30. 1st Semester - January 15. 3rd Quarter - March 23. 2nd Semester - May 27.**
 - Periods of ineligibility for grades begin on the Monday following the posting of grades and run through the second Monday (15 calendar days).
 - The ineligibility period may be prolonged or start later than the first Monday after grades are posted due to school district observed holidays or other unforeseen circumstances.
 - Students will regain eligibility to participate after serving the fifteen (15) calendar day ineligibility period

A student who is enrolled in any state-approved EEN program and who receives no usual grades for such courses may be eligible if he/she is making satisfactory progress in his/her total school program as indicated by his/her IEP.

Senior students who are academically eligible and have their parents and coaches/advisors approval may attend that activity's state tournament/competition that they have participated in that year, without going off waiver hours.

These academic eligibility requirements do apply to students in 7th and 8th grades.

WIAA Eligibility

A student is ineligible by WIAA policy for athletic competition if he/she:

- Becomes 19 years old before August 1 of any school year.
- Attends more than 8 semesters of high school (a semester of eligibility is charged after 40 school days or participation in one interscholastic contest).
- Enrolls after the 17th day of a semester without extenuating circumstances (i.e. sickness, accident, transfer).
- Competes in a given sport more than four different seasons.
- Participates in an all-star contest or similar activity involving participants from more than a given league.

In addition, a student is eligible for athletic competition according to WIAA standards, only if he/she:

1. Maintains amateur status.
2. Does not compete in outside activities in the same sport during the same school season.
3. Has a physical examination at least every other year as confirmed on the WIAA physical examination card or alternate year athletic permit card.
4. Has parent's signed permission on the WIAA card.
5. Transportation Regulations

Transportation to Events

Team members must use the transportation provided by the school to reach the site of the contest or practice and return to school using the same transportation unless parents request otherwise in writing prior to the event. Personal contact with written signature by legal parent/guardian must be made with the coach/advisor prior to departure from the event to enable the student to ride in a private vehicle. This parental/legal guardian option is strongly discouraged.

- If there is a necessary reason for a student to drive to/from an activity or to ride home with someone other than a legal guardian; prior approval must be given by the building principal...AND written notice provided. Additionally, due to the potential for forgery, legal guardian must leave a voicemail recording with the school signifying permission to use alternative transportation.
- Coaches/advisors may enforce their own guidelines in the following areas:
 - a. The degree of talking and singing on the way to or from a contest or practice.
 - b. The consumption of food or beverages.

Changing Sports

All students have an understanding before participating in any sport at BHHS, that they have a responsibility to the team of that sport. According to this understanding, no student will change sports after the first (1) practice unless his/her present coach agrees to sign a waiver allowing the athlete to switch to a different sport.

1. It is the student's responsibility to inform the coach when dropping or changing a sport.
2. If during participation, any ineligibility period is being served and the student then chooses to quit the sport, the ineligibility period will be re-served before participating in the next sport.

Conduct Unbecoming of a Black Hawk MS/HS Activities Participant

1. **Undesirable school behavior**, (suspensions, discipline, etc.). All students shall conduct themselves in such a way as to reflect positively on themselves, their family and school while representing Black Hawk High School. Note that some actions that take place outside of school time and property can fall into undesirable school behavior if it impacts the ability of a staff person/student to participate in normal school activities and functions and/or disrupts the normal focus and functioning of the student body during the school day.

Students will be suspended from activities/competiton according to the disciplinary procedure outlined in Section VI.

- All incidents of undesireable school behavior cannot be defined, but here are some guidelines on behaviors that will invoke an activities code violation for conduct unbecoming a BH activities participant:
 1. Consistent in-school truancy. Acquiring more than 10 tardies in a semester's time.
 2. Repeated violations of school procedures/expectations on profanity ("F" word use in school especially), dress code, parking, vehicle use, electronic device usage.
 3. Vandalism - damaging or defacing school property, including graffiti on walls, bathroom stalls, floors, etc. that disrespect Black Hawk School students, staff, and protected classes of citizens defined by race, ethnicity, sexual preferences/identification, gender, religion, and disabilities.
 4. Bullying or harassment - repeated acts of insults, put-downs, rumor spreading, recruitment, and other intentionally hurtful actions towards students and staff. Especially, after incidents have been reported and a student/family has been told they

have been whitelisted as a potential bully towards another student.

5. Physical altercations - fights or other aggressive actions towards staff and students that involved physical contact, such as but not limited to: blows (arms, legs, objects striking), chokes, intentional displacement off of a person's feet onto the ground.
6. Threatening acts or endangering behavior statements threatening the safety and/or wellbeing of another person or group of persons. Actions or statements (written or verbal). Possession of weapons/firearms, including in private vehicles.
7. Disrespect of Staff Members - using inappropriate language or actions to disrespect a staff member and profuse/blatant insubordination (refusing to listen to a reasonable directive by staff).
8. Repeated refusal to follow school procedures and expectations.
9. Inappropriate use of technology - using a personal electronic device or school assigned device to access prohibited content (normally blocked by school filtering software) or using an electronic device to take pictures of or distribute pictures of other persons without their knowledge at school or a school sponsored activity.
10. Cyberbullying acts, including but not limited to:
 - a. Harassing Messages: Sending threatening, abusive, or insulting messages through text, email, or social media platforms.
 - b. Rumor Spreading: Posting or sharing false, harmful, or malicious statements about someone online to damage their reputation.
 - c. Impersonation: Creating fake profiles or accounts to impersonate someone and post inappropriate or damaging content in their name.
 - d. Public Shaming: Sharing embarrassing or humiliating photos or videos of someone without their consent.
 - e. Doxxing: Revealing someone's private information (such as address, phone number, or personal photos) online without their permission.
 - f. Cyberstalking: Repeatedly sending messages, emails, or other communications to intimidate or frighten someone.
 - g. Trolling: Posting inflammatory, off-topic, or abusive messages in online communities to provoke emotional responses or disrupt discussions.

- h. Outing: Sharing someone's secrets or personal information online without their consent to embarrass or humiliate them.
- i. Catfishing: Creating a fake identity or profile to deceive someone into a relationship or friendship for the purpose of manipulation or exploitation.

11. Academic dishonesty: two or more instances of cheating as defined in the MS/HS Student Handbook in a semester.

Benchmarks for Conduct Unbecoming Athletic Code violations

1. Out of School Suspension (OSS) - any single incident that involves a student needing to be suspended from attending school. Step 7 Placement or higher.
2. In School Suspensions (ISS) - cumulative incidents of 3 or more in school suspensions during a calendar school year.
3. Detentions - 3 referrals for after school detentions during a single season.

2. Students who use, possess, or are involved with drugs or alcohol, or the use of tobacco in any manner, will be suspended from activities/competitions according to the disciplinary procedure outlined in Section VI. This is a zero tolerance policy. Absolutely no use at ANY time will be allowed. This includes family gatherings or home use with or without parent/guardian presence.

3. Students may also be disciplined or suspended from participation for showing disrespect to any school employee, coach, or official, or not meeting the requirements of individual coaches/advisors.

4. Violation of state or local ordinances.

Note: Violations which occur during a WIAA tournament will result in suspension from the remainder of the tournament series.

Disciplinary Procedure

1. Minor Violations will be handled by the coach/advisor in charge.
 - a. Minor violation will include, keeping late hours, field discipline, lack of cooperation, missing practices, etc.
 - b. Penalties for minor violations will range from a verbal reprimand, suspension from practices/meeting and games/performances up to a maximum of ten school days.

2. Major violations will be handled by the athletic director, principal, or his/her designee.

Major violations take place when a student is involved:

- a. in the use, possession, buying, or selling of intoxicating beverages or illegal drugs, or the use of tobacco. **A student who knowingly attends any party where illegal drinking is occurring will be considered in violation of this code whether or not the student him/herself actually consumes beer, liquor, or illegal drugs.** Students who prudently remove themselves from these environments will not be in violation.
- b. Conduct unbecoming a Black Hawk Activities Participant.
 1. Undesirable school behavior, (suspensions, discipline, etc.).
 2. Outside of school activities that cause a disruption in in-school proceedings.
- c. Violation of state or local ordinances.

Consequences and Penalties for Violations

- Suspension means that the student is not allowed to dress out or participate in a contest or event. It may also include suspension from practice, rehearsals, or meetings. However, the participant may be required to continue to practice with the team, club, or group.
- Dismissal means that the student is no longer a part of the team, club, or group. If dismissed, the participants' uniform and/or equipment owned by the school district will be taken back and his/her name will be removed from the team, club, or group's roster. Reinstatement into the same team, club, or group will be considered only after one calendar year. The Principal, after consultation with the Activities Director, must approve any reinstatement.

Under no circumstances will any student who has been suspended from school pursuant to the general code of conduct participate in extracurricular activities during the suspension period.

Penalties for major violations will be as follows and will be carried over from season to season, including violations occurred in summer and in periods of no activities:

FIRST Major Violation

Group 1 Activity

The penalty for the first major violation will be a suspension from 20 percent of the total number of games for the activity in which the violations occur. A student may agree to voluntarily enroll and compete an assessment program, (when applicable or available). This agreement will reduce the suspension time to 10 percent. The suspension will carry over from one sport season to another if necessary. Any pre-season or vacation violations will carry the same suspension when the athlete enters an activity season. Practice attendance will required throughout the suspension period.

Failure to complete the assessment program at any violation level
reinstate the full penalty.

Group II Activity

A member of a Group II activity will be ineligible to compete or perform for 14 calendar days from the date of conviction or the start of the next activity. A student may reduce the penalty to 7 calendar days by agreeing to complete an assessment program (where applicable).

SECOND Major Violation

Group I Activity

The penalty for a second major violation will be a suspension from 40 percent of the total number of contests for the activity in which the violation occurs. A student may reduce the penalty to 20 percent of the total contests by voluntarily agreeing to complete an assessment program (when applicable). The suspension will carry over from one season to another if necessary. There will also be loss of team honors (letter, special awards, etc.), loss of captaincy and no All-Conference consideration.

Group II Activity

A member of a group II activity will be ineligible to participate for 30 calendar days from the date of conviction or the start of the next activity. A student may reduce the penalty to 15 calendar days by voluntarily agreeing to complete an assessment program, (where applicable). There will also be a loss of any office held and any awards.

THIRD Major Violation

Suspension from all activities from one calendar year upon conviction of third violation.

FOURTH Major Violation

Permanent suspension

Events	
Baseball/Softball - Doubleheader	Each game equals 1 event
Tennis, Volleyball, Wrestling - Tournament/Invite	Entire tournament/invite equals 1 event
Cross Country, Swim, Golf, Track - Meet	Entire meet equals 1 event
Soccer, Basketball/Hockey - Tournament	Each game equals 1 event
All Sports single games/matches, duals and triangulars	Each equals 1 event
All performances	1 day equals 1 event

Enforcement and Reporting

- A. Valid evidence – any information or evidence considered to be relevant, valid, and accurate by any person(s) reviewing a particular alleged violation shall be considered. If such information cannot be substantiated on the basis of subsequent investigation, it will be treated as a rumor.

Violations must be reported in writing to the Principal/Athletic Director within thirty (30) calendar days of the occurrence.

- B. Procedures will be followed which will provide opportunity for the student to have the case reviewed in regard to the violation(s). A copy of the procedure will be made available to a student at the time he/she is notified of an alleged violation or whenever he/she requests an appeal.

A student shall begin a suspension when one or more of the following conditions are met:

- The student admits the violations
- The principal has met with the student, investigated the case, and determined the student has committed a major violation of the activity code.
- Suspensions shall begin immediately after the student has been found to have committed a violation.

The Appeal Process

- A. If the student or the parent(s)/guardian(s) are dissatisfied with the decision rendered by the principal they may appeal the decision in writing to the athletic director or district administrator who made the decision within (5) school days after receipt of the letter notifying them of the decision.

- B. Upon receiving an appeal, that official shall schedule a meeting with the Activity Board as soon as possible. The athlete will remain under suspension during the time leading up to the appeal. The student may be accompanied by parent(s) or guardian(s) at the meeting. They will have an opportunity to present evidence and challenge evidence presented against the student at this meeting. This meeting will be conducted by the District Administrator or a designee. Each member of the appeals board, outside of the district administrator, will render one vote via ballot, or by voice roll if directed by the district administrator.

The Activity Board shall consist of:

- a. District Administrator
- b. Athletic Director
- c. Principal
- d. Coach/Advisor of the season.
- e. One school board member
- f. One faculty member

- C. The school shall consider the decision of the appeals board final.

Listing of Grouping I and II Activities

Group I

All athletics
Cheerleading
Forensics
ESports

Group II

All existing & future clubs
Student Council
Musical
Class Officers
Homecoming Court
Club Officers
Prom Court
FBLA
DECA
FFA
Yearbook Staff
Badger Boys/Girls State
National Honor Society
Field Trips (unless academic
Letterman credit is given)
Library
Honors Band
Honors Chorus

Penalties for Violations of Group I Activities.

Listed is the number of contests students would have to sit out if they violated the activity code.

Number of Contests	Number of Contest Penalized		
	10%	20%	40%
1	1	1	1
2	1	1	1
3	1	1	1
4	1	1	2
5	1	1	2
6	1	1	2
7	1	1	3
8	1	2	3
9	1	2	4
10	1	2	4
11	1	2	4

12	1	2	5
13	2	3	5
14	2	3	6
15	2	3	6
16	2	3	6
17	2	3	7
18	2	3	7
19	2	4	8
20	2	4	8

ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES CODE VIOLATIONS REPORT

Name of Student_____

Grade_____Date of Report_____

Alleged Code Violation:

Date of Alleged Violation_____Person Making Report_____

____I agree to appear regarding this matter if requested.

Signature of Reporter

Action Taken as a Result of the Reported Violation:

Comments on Admission or denial of person accused of violation:

Action taken after full investigation (if necessary):

Parents notified of violation and action taken:

Date_____Method_____

Date when student is restored to full athletic participation:

Date_____

Additional Comments:

Athletic Teams and Events

Black Hawk is proud of its athletic program and looks forward to the continued growth of its athletic traditions. Athletic events are an important part of high school life, and students are encouraged to participate both as an athlete and as a fan. Students can help ensure everyone's enjoyment of the game by showing courtesy to all around them. All school rules are in effect for those attending athletic events and all other school activities.

PARENTS'/FAN EXPECTATIONS

Our students compete in activities to challenge themselves physically, and mentally, to have fun, and for the love of the game. Through activities, our students learn to be trustworthy, respectful, responsible, fair, caring, and cooperative. Through activities, students can achieve great things!

As a parent and as a fan I will agree to abide by the following expectations and guidelines:

- I will remember that this activity is for the student and I will make it a positive experience.
- I will be a positive role model for the students and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players/participants, coaches, officials, and spectators at every game, practice, or other event.
- I will teach my student to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without hostility or violence.
- I will demand that my student treat other players/participants, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex, or ability.
- I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, participants, or parent such as booing and taunting or using profane language or gestures.

- I will respect the coaches/advisors and will not question, discuss, or confront coaches/advisor at the competition venue. If I wish to speak with a coach/advisor, I will follow the accepted protocol.
- I will not ridicule or make negative statements at the student, the team, or the coach/advisor for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will not coach my child or other players/participants during games/competitions and/or practices. I understand that I am the parent and a fan and will leave the coaching to those who have been entrusted with the position.
- I agree that I will follow the expectations and guidelines.

Expectations of Parents

1. Be positive with your son/daughter. Let them know that they are accomplishing something by being part of the team or group.
2. Do not offer excuses to the reason they are not playing. Encourage them to work hard and do their best.
3. Encourage students to follow the rules. Whether they are a starter or backup, participants must follow rules pertaining to drinking, smoking, promptness, and school, etc.
4. As a fan, you are entitled to cheer enthusiastically for your team, but don't become belligerent. Coaches/advisors work with athletes/participants and know their talents. Respect that!
5. Insist that the athletes/participants respect team rules, school rules, game officials, and sportsmanship. Self-respect begins with self-control.
6. Encourage the athletes/participants to improve their self-image by believing in themselves.
7. Encourage your son/daughter to compete for the love of the game, nothing else.
8. Remember that the coach/advisor is involved as a coach/advisor because he/she is sincerely fond of children and is an experienced professional. Coaches/advisors have different ways of dealing with people and situations. Student's lives are enriched by interaction with different types of leaders.

9. Remember: at a competition you, the parent, represent your community, your school and your son/daughter. Please be a positive role model.

Interscholastic Athletics

Fall

Volleyball, Football* Cooperative with Warren (IL), Cheer Squad

Winter

Women – Basketball, Wrestling,* Cooperative with Shullsburg & Warren (IL), Cheer Squad

Men – Basketball, Wrestling* Cooperative with Shullsburg & Warren (IL), Cheer Squad

Spring

Women – Softball* Cooperative with Argyle, Track and Field

Men – Baseball* Cooperative with Argyle, Track, and Field

Athletic Playing Time

The School District of Black Hawk has established the following guidelines for playing time for athletes. The district philosophy establishes different philosophies at the varying competitive levels.

Black Hawk Playing Time Philosophy

The Coaches Purpose:

- The coach is to provide an opportunity for student/athletes to have a positive experience.
- The coach should focus on developing sport specific skills, teamwork, sportsmanship, and self-regulation.
- The coach shall communicate her/his expectations with the students, parents, and other key stake holders.
- The coach should be open and honest with athletes and parent/guardians.
- The coach should be sensitive and compassionate to the student/athlete's perspective.

Playing Time Guidelines (School Sponsored Sports)

Middle School:

Focus on skill development.

Focus is not on winning.

Work to provide all student/athletes an ample amount of playing time.

Junior Varsity:

Focus on skill development.

Winning is still not #1 focus, winning does take a small role.
Work to provide all student/athletes an ample amount of playing time.

Varsity:

Coach's discretion.

Winning becomes a main focus.

Best players play the most – Assuming the following:

- Eligibility.
- Following team/school rules in a positive manner.
- Meeting coaches expectations for attitude and effort in practices and games.
- The skill set of the player gives the team the best chance to be competitive.

Strive to find playing time for other athletes

- Outcome of the game is well in control, either for the positive or negative score differential.
- Seek opportunities to work athletes into the game throughout the game where applicable.

Filing a Grievance related to Athletic Participation

The District would strongly encourage parent/guardian and students to discuss their concerns with each other before either the parent/guardian or child approaches the coach.

Guidelines:

All discussions about playing time should involve the following parameters

- Allow for a 24 hour period to pass after a game.
- Be pre-arranged – set a time to meet with the coach.
- Parent and student should meet with the coach first (all individuals involved shall)

The district strongly encourages a student approaching the coach on their own accord

- Be respectful
- Be honest
- Refrain from discussing other athletes

If the parent and student are not satisfied with the explanation/result then they can proceed through the next chain of command in the following order, using the same parameters:

- Athletic Director or Principal if athletic director has a conflict of interest.
- District Administrator
- School Board - formal discussions of complaints should be scheduled for open meeting following the state of Wisconsin's open meetings' laws.

Interscholastic Athletic Eligibility

Any student may practice for or participate in interscholastic athletics after placing on file within the school written evidence attesting to:

- a. Parental permission each school year
- b. Current physical fitness as determined by a licensed physician not less than every other school year.
- c. The acceptance of and understanding of the school's code of conduct on a year round (12 month) basis.
- d. Evidence of health/injury insurance.

PLEDGE SHEET

Return this paper to the athletic director/principal if you wish to participate in athletics or any other activities. This pledge sheet must be signed by both the participant and a parent or legal guardian before participation will be allowed.

.....

I hereby agree to abide by the policies and regulations listed in the Athletic & Activities Code Handbook.

_____	_____
Signature of Participant	Date
.....	

I, as a parent or legal guardian of the above participant, have read the policies and regulations set forth for athletic and activities participation at Black hawk High School and give my permission for my son or daughter to participate under these conditions. I hereby agree with these policies and regulations and will see that my

son or daughter abides by them to the best of my ability. If any of the rules are violated, I will go along with the disciplinary actions taken.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

I give permission for the coach or advisor to secure first aid and emergency care for my son or daughter from qualified personnel, should he or she requires such assistance.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date