

ATHLETIC AGREEMENT

This agreement must be signed by both athlete and parent/guardian, and be on file with the athletic office prior to trying out for a team. This agreement will be in force throughout the school year for any and all seasons. The signatures below confirm that the student/athlete and parent/guardian have read this agreement and that the student/athlete will abide by these rules.

***Important information for any student, and their parents, considering future participation in college athletics:** Eligibility requirements, recruitment guidelines, and other important information pertaining to participating in college athletics are located on the NCAA Clearinghouse site.

*******Important new NCAA eligibility rule:*******

Beginning September 2010, Division I and Division II will not accept CPI level courses, English Language Learners courses, special education courses, or any online learning courses offered at Barnstable High School. This only pertains to Division I and II schools: this does not apply to Division III Schools. It is the students' responsibility to check their eligibility for Division I and II colleges, as they progress through high school: www.ncaa.org

BARNSTABLE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FEE POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

All members of interscholastic teams for Barnstable High School will be assessed a **\$125.00** participation fee for each season (maximum cap of \$500 per family per year)

**Checks are made payable to:
Barnstable High School Athletics**

Fees are due prior to the student trying out. If a student does not make a team their check will not be deposited. The payment of a fee does not provide a student with any special consideration or entitlement with respect to playing time. Rather, fees collected in this manner are designed to help defray the operational cost of the Barnstable Secondary Schools' athletic budget. Students who qualify for the Federal Free Lunch program are entitled to a waiver of this fee upon written request.

***Any student who voluntarily leaves a team or is dropped from the team for disciplinary reasons or eligibility reasons will not be granted a refund. Students injured prior to the first contest, who then leave a team, will receive a refund.**

- I understand and agree to the aforementioned policies concerning behavior expectations and participation fees, as stated.
- I have read, and will follow, the Closed Head Injury guidelines (last page), adopted by Barnstable High School.
- I agree to computerized pre-participation concussion base-line testing for my child

Parent/Guardian's Name (print)

Parent/Guardian's Signature - Date

Student/Athlete's Name (print)

Student/Athlete's Signature - Date

Sport and Level: _____

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Students are offered a diversified program of interscholastic athletics subject to the rules and regulations of the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrator's Association. Barnstable High School cannot financially aid any individual or team in a non-sanctioned M.I.A.A. event.

Eligibility

All students are encouraged to participate in the athletic program. To participate in interscholastic competition, standards set by the Massachusetts Secondary School Principal Association must be met.

Academic Requirements

To be eligible for the fall marking period, students are required to have passed for the previous academic year the equivalent of four 1-year courses, and have also received a passing grade in 5 of 6 courses on the last report card of the previous year.

To be eligible, beginning with first quarter grades students must be enrolled in a minimum of 5 courses and must obtain passing grades in all but one course in which they are enrolled.

The academic eligibility of all students shall be considered as official and determined only on the date when the report cards for that ranking period have been issued to the parents of all students.

- A student who repeats work upon which he/she has once received credit cannot count that subject a second time for eligibility in more than two courses.
- A student cannot count for eligibility any subject taken during summer vacation, unless that subject has previously been pursued and failed.

Time Allowed for Participation

- A student shall be eligible for interscholastic competition for no more than 15 consecutive athletic seasons (defined below) beyond the 7th grade. In no case may a student be eligible to participate in more than five of each of the seasons defined as follows:

“**Fall**” – coinciding with dates of the fall season.

“**Winter**” – coinciding with the dates of the winter season.

“**Spring**” – coinciding with the dates of the spring season.

- In special cases where a pupil has been absent because of an accident or illness which prevented school attendance, the Executive Director shall have the authority to extend the student's eligibility upon presentation of a doctor's certificate on the pupil's behalf and a letter for the Principal attesting to the inability of the student to attend school during the period of the student's absence because of an accident or illness. In instances where an extended eligibility is granted the student may be declared eligible only for the season(s) that the student's illness prevented him/her from participating.

Age Limits

A student shall be under nineteen years of age. However, he/she may compete during the remainder of the school year, provided that his/her nineteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1 of that year. For grade nine (8) competition a player shall be under 15 years of age. However, he/she may compete during the remainder of the school year provided that (he sixteenth birthday occurs on or after September 1 of that year. Principals must exercise great care in determining the ages of contestants, and in all doubtful cases, must secure birth certificates from the town clerk of the pupil's place of birth.

In the case of a Ch. 766 student, the student may waive his/her right to the initial waiver consideration before the Executive Director and proceed directly to a hearing before the Eligibility Review Board. A student, to qualify for this process, must have an approved educational plan and an annual review as well as a current classification of 502.4 or more restrictive.

Graduation

- A student must be an undergraduate; i.e., he/she shall not be a graduate of any secondary school. Any student who has the credits required for a diploma shall be regarded as a graduate with the following exceptions:
- An early graduate of a high school may represent his/her school in athletics until the end of the sport season in which he/she is participating if otherwise eligible. The diploma must be withheld until at least (he season is completed and the student may not attend classes outside of that high school during that season.

PENALTIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

The Barnstable Athletic Program is an extension of our school academic program. We feel that the following conditions are essential to a successful program: sportsmanship, commitment to learn, and the development of skills and strategies necessary for interscholastic competition.

It is our intent that the values learned through the competitive experience will help players become more productive members of our community. Due to these program expectations and goals, players participating in our program will be required to adhere to the following standards of discipline:

- A. Hazing: consequences-removal from team
- B. Harassment: consequences-range from suspension to removal from team.
- C. Substance abuse:

1. No possession, use or consumption of alcohol or drugs, including tobacco products in any form. * **NEW RULE:** Use of substances during any part of the school year will have consequences, even out of season, (with the exception of summer). Ex: If a violation occurs in the fall, out of season, student/athlete will miss the first 25% of the next sport season they try out for.
 - a) Consequences - unless the drug is prescribed by a physician, the athlete will be removed from the team for the current season. In addition, per the MIAA, if there is less than 25% of the season remaining when the infraction occurs, the balance of the penalty shall be carried forward to the next season the athlete tries out for. During the carry over period, at the Athletic Director and coach's discretion, the athlete may be permitted to try out and practice. The parent/guardian will be notified and mandatory counseling, to be determined through school services, will be given to the athlete before he/she can compete in another sport season.
2. **Social Websites:** Student/athletes may be held accountable for inappropriate language/behavior and or violations posted on websites. This includes use of substances, derogatory pictures/language regarding other towns/schools etc. It is important to recognize that college admission offices and employers may use these sites to determine an individual's character. Discipline may range from a warning, up to and including removal from a team, depending on the infraction.

Practice

1. Unexcused absence will be dealt with by the coach individually. Athletes who do not follow practice rules or are disruptive during practice will be dismissed from that session.
2. Continuous disruptive behavior during practice sessions will result in a report to the athletic director and parent/guardian.

School Discipline Levels (Student Handbook)

1. Any player who moves up one discipline level during his/her season of participation will be given a one game suspension; i.e. 1-2 day Out-of-School Suspension.
2. Level 5-3 day out of-school suspension will result in a one week suspension: no practice, no play.
3. Level 6 - 5 day out-of-school suspension will result in a two week suspension: no practice, no play.
4. Level 7-10 days out-of-school suspension will result in removal from team.
5. Anyone who is at level eight at the beginning of a season will be ineligible for spoils.

* Student has the right to appeal any decision through the designated appeal process.

Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. If a student/athlete is charged with criminal activity, the charge will be reviewed jointly by the coach and athletic director. At the discretion of the athletic director, with input from the coach, a student/athlete may be suspended or removed from a team for a season or from athletics altogether, if doing so would be in the best interest of the team, athletic department, or school. The student/athlete may appeal a suspension or removal in writing to the assistant principal within one school day of being informed of the dismissal by the athletic director. If the assistant principal denies the student/athlete's appeal, the student/athlete may then appeal to the principal in writing within one school day of the decision by the assistant principal. The principal's decision is final.

Barnstable High School is a member of the Massachusetts Secondary School Principal's Association and a member of the Old Colony League and Pilgrim Conference.

Training - Rules, hours, schedules, practice sessions, attendance and participation are all determined by the coaches and the Athletic Department. If a coach suspends a player from a team the player may appeal to the Athletic Director and request a meeting.

As a performing group, athletes are obliged to attend all practices and games with the team unless excused by the coach. Disciplinary action includes suspension from participation in one or more succeeding games.

Physicals - All athletes must have a physical examination within one year before participating in any sport.

Uniforms and Equipment - In most instances, the necessary uniforms and protective gear are loaned to the students by the athletic department. Personal articles of clothing must be furnished by the individual. Students are responsible for loss or damage to school equipment. Any items loaned are to be returned on demand. Obligations must be resolved before any further material is loaned to students.

Concussion Guideline:

Any player with a suspected closed head injury will be subject to **Barnstable High School's Closed Head Injury Guidelines:**

**If a closed head injury is suspected, immediate removal of participation.*

**Once athlete's symptoms have subsided, a 7 day concussion rehabilitation process will begin.*

Boys and Girls on the Same Team

The Barnstable School Committee, in compliance with the law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Chapter 76, Section S) will allow equal access to all activities and programs to all students regardless of sex, creed, race or national origin. All candidates and their parents or guardians should be aware of the potential dangers to health and welfare inherent in mixed sex teams, particularly in contact sports.

*** The new college freshman eligibility requirements (NCAA Bylaw 5-1-0)**

In January 1983, NCAA Division I member institutions voted to amend NCAA Bylaw 5-1 -0 (sometimes known as the "000 rule"). This bylaw defines the requirements that must be met to participate in intercollegiate athletics and receive athletically-related aid as a freshman.

***Beginning August 1, 1986**, the following requirements became effective: "A qualifier as used herein is defined as one who is a high school graduate and at the time of graduation from high school presented an accumulative minimum grade point average of 2.000 (based on a maximum of 4.000) in a core curriculum of at least 11 academic courses including at least three years in English, two years in mathematics, two years

in social studies and two years in natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory class, if offered by the high school) as certified on the high school transcript or by official correspondence, as well as a (minimum) 700 combined score on the SAT verbal and math sections or a (minimum) IS composite score on the ACT.

This rule applies only to NCAA Division I member institutions.