

BUNKER R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT



INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

BUNKER R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERSCHOLASTIC
STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

*Board Adopted 06/2016

Interscholastic activities are an integral part of the Bunker R-3 School District's overall educational program. Our goal is to provide a wholesome outlet for students who have an interest in athletic/academic competition, music, drama, speech and debate. Interscholastic activities should enhance and not hinder the academic program. Rather than "win at any cost" philosophy, personal growth, commitment, school spirit, character development, physical training, self-discipline, and positive work ethic are worthwhile outcomes of an interscholastic activities program.

The TEAM concept should be the central theme of the athletic program with the personal development of the individual desired outcome. Within the perimeters of that concept, the team concept should never be sacrificed at the expense of the welfare of individuals. Rather, the development of both should be facilitated in such a way as to benefit all involved.

In addition to complementing the existing academic and activities program, the interscholastic activities program should form a bridge between the school and the community it serves. As such, the program should reflect and promote community pride.

All phases of the interscholastic program, grades seven through twelve, should be coordinated by the respective head coach/sponsor of each activity and should embrace the same desirable and basic tenants of the total program set forth in this statement of philosophy.

While room for creativity within individual activity must exist, a central thread of consistency of the basic tenants of the Bunker R-3 Philosophy of Activities should form a primary foundation of each activity.

Normal sequential development typically results in a narrowing of participants to those with superior abilities. However, at the lower levels, all that choose to participate should be given every opportunity to develop his/her potential. All personnel involved with the program should strive to work within the framework of this philosophical statement and in so doing set the tone of the program and serve as a role model for all participants.

DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR PARTICIPANTS

- Improvement of school spirit
- Projection of a positive image to and for the community.
- Physical growth and development of participants.
- Development of a TEAM concept for participants.
- A coordinated program with a unified purpose for grades seven through twelve in each sport.
- Opportunities for coaches/sponsors to help youth grow and develop in a positive manner.
- An appreciation for the value of hard work and commitment.
- Respect for authority and the rights of others.
- Development of the value of fair-play and ethical standards.

AFFILIATIONS

The Bunker R-3 School District is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), the Black River League Conference (BRL) and the Big Springs Conference (BSC). As a member of these associations the Bunker R-3 School District is committed to adhere to the rules and regulations of the Associations.

ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE BUNKER R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT

High School
Fall Season:
Cross Country
Volleyball

Winter Season:
Basketball
Cheerleading

Spring Season:
Baseball

Junior High
Fall Season:
Basketball
Cheerleading

Winter Season:
N/A

Spring Season:
Baseball
Volleyball

STUDENT INFORMATION

****NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION: It is the policy of the Bunker R-3 School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, sex, creed, or color is subject to discrimination in any activity of the Bunker R-3 School District.**

****Participation in interscholastic activities at the Bunker R-3 School District is a privilege, not a right. This privilege may be revoked at any time by the coach, athletic director, or school administration for behavior deemed detrimental to the good order of the program.**

I. Expected Behavior of Athletes

Coaches will explain to the athletes on their respective teams the importance of their responsibilities as Eagles, members of a team, and a representative of their school and community. As part of their responsibility, athletes representing Bunker R-3 should at all times:

- Show good sportsmanship and gentlemanly/lady-like conduct on and off the field of endeavor.
- Obey all training rules.
- Show courtesy to officials, coaches, school officials and opponents.
- Give maximum effort in practice and in all competitive situations.
- Dress in a uniform manner and project an athletic appearance.
- **Never miss a practice unless the coach is informed of a situation before that practice begins and be at the designated site on time.**
- Develop a team first attitude.
- Meet all eligibility standards as established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association and the Bunker R-3 Board of Education.

II. Guidelines for Participation

The Bunker R-3 School District is a member of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), which had standards that students must meet in order to participate. In addition, the Bunker R-3 Board of Education has local guideline for eligibility (**MSHSAA by-law 219**). Students who are unsure of eligibility should always check with the athletic director for a rule interpretation.

- A. Students in athletics and cheerleading must have a current physical examination by a qualified physician and this form must be kept on file in the office of the nurse and the athletic director. In order for this physical exam to be valid, it must have been administered on or after February 1 of the previous year, and have been signed by a parent or guardian giving the student permission to participate. **MSHSAA by-law 308.0 & 309.0**
- B. All students who participate in athletics and cheerleading must have on file in the office of the athletic director written proof of valid insurance coverage. BOTH A.

and B. MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICE.

- C. **CITIZENSHIP:** Students must be creditable school citizens whose conduct, either in or out of school will not reflect discredit to themselves or their school. **MSHSAA by-law 2.1**
- D. **ACADEMICS:** The Bunker R-3 School District and MSHSAA mandates that to participate in athletic competitions students must have earned, the preceding semester of attendance, a minimum of 2.5 credits or have earned credit in 70% of the maximum allowable classes in which any student can be enrolled in the semester, whichever is greater, at your school. For your current semester, you must be enrolled in. and regularly attending, courses that offer 2.5 units of credit or 70% of the maximum allowable credits which may be earned, whichever is greater, for your school.
- In addition to the preceding policy for participation: For every "F" a student earns either on mid-quarter or the end of quarter grade checks, that student will be ineligible to participate in one athletic contest (one game) for each "F" grade earned, two "D's" will be treated as one "F", ineligible to participate in one athletic contest.
- E. **TRANSFERRING SCHOOLS**
Students and parents must move into the district of their new school unless they meet the exceptions listed in the MSHSAA rules. **MSHSAA by-law 2.5**
- F. **PARTICIPATION LIMITS**
Students are eligible to participate in any activity for a maximum of four consecutive seasons beginning when he/she enters the ninth grade. **MSHSAA by-law 2.4.**
- G. **AGE LIMIT**
If a student reaches nineteen (19) years of age prior to July 1, he/she will be ineligible the next year. To be eligible for the junior high school competition against teams in a particular grade classification, the student shall not have reached the following ages prior to July 1 preceding the opening of school: Grade Seven (7) age 14 and Grade Eight (8) age 15. If a student does not meet the age standard for a particular grade classification, that student may compete on a team of higher grade classification. **MSHSAA by-law 3.5.**
- H. **ENTERING SCHOOL**
Students must enter school within the first eleven (11) days of the semester in order to be eligible. **MSHSAA by-law 2.5.**
- I. **AMATEUR AND AWARDS STANDARDS**
Students may not receive cash or merchandise for participating in an athletic contest. Any awards presented must be symbolic in nature such as medals or ribbons and the retail value cannot exceed \$100.00. **MSHSAA by-law 3.6**
- J. A student may play in a band, sing, etc. and receive remuneration, if they are not representing the school.

K. NON-SCHOOL COMPETITION

Students may not participate for or participate with a non-school team or in any organized nonschool athletic competition in the same sport during the same season. For example, a student may not play on an AAU basketball team during the school basketball season. A track participant may not enter road races or be on a club team at the same time. A baseball player cannot play or practice on a Summer League team during the same season. Students may participate on a school team and a non-school team in different sports during the same season. Students may not practice with or participate for a non-school team or organized non-school athletic competition on the same day as they practice or participate for the school team without approval of their school administrator.

MSHSAA by-law 3.13

L. DISCIPLINE CODE

The Bunker R-3 School District Discipline Code applies to all activities and participants. Violations of the discipline code may result in suspension from game participation or removal from the team. In particular:

- **ABSENCES**

A student must be in attendance for four periods of the school day to be eligible to participate in or attend an activity that night- unless the absence is prearranged with the principal.

- **TRANSPORTATION**

If the school provides transportation, the student must ride that school transportation to and from all school sponsored activities. Exceptions will only be made where the parent or guardian contacts the coach/sponsor to make arrangements. Students are expected to be on their best behavior while representing the district. This includes riding the bus.

- **SUSPENSION**

If a student is suspended from school, the student will not be eligible to participate until he/she has fulfilled the disciplinary requirements established by the administration. In addition, the student will miss the next official contest in which he/she would be involved. For each ISS or Saturday School assignments by the principal totaling two days or more in a season will result in the athlete missing one contest. Suspension is grounds for dismissal from the team. Coaches will be notified of all suspensions.

- **ANY BEHAVIOR NOT LISTED ABOVE BUT LISTED IN THE BUNKER R-3 STUDENT HANDBOOK**

These incidents will be handled on an individual basis and the coach, athletic director, and/or principal will make determination as to the consequences.

M. CITIZENSHIP GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITIES AT BUNKER R-3

It is understood that citizenship eligibility cases are handled on an individual basis at the school level by the coach/sponsor, athletic director and/or principal. However, minimum system wide guidelines will assist in the handling of certain cases.

- STUDENTS UNDER ARREST

If a student is arrested for a misdemeanor (shoplifting, vandalism, DWI, etc.) or for a felony (assault robbery, etc.), the student will be allowed to represent the school in interscholastic activities pending the legal outcome of the case. However, if there is an admission of guilt by the student, the school may restrict the student from participation.

- POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL TOBACCO, NON-PRESCRIBED DRUGS, AND/OR DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

Actions of this sort will not be tolerated. If a student-athlete violates this regulation, his/her violation will be reviewed by the coach, administration and parents. After the review, the athlete and parents will be notified of the decision.

Options:

1. Suspended from the team for a period of time.
2. Removed from team permanently.

***** Any athlete who is under suspension when his/her season is completed is not eligible for post-season recognition or a team letter.**

N. ATHLETES WHO QUIT A TEAM

Coaches are discouraged from allowing a player who has quit a team to be reinstated, although such situations should be handled on an individual basis.

O. ABSENCE POLICY

Missing practice without notifying a member of the coaching staff of the respective sport will be considered a serious offense and the penalty shall be determined by the head coach of the respective sport. There are two types of absences to be considered: Excused Absences- when you are sick and miss school with a doctor's excuse or an illness or death in the family. Unexcused Absences- when you miss practice for any other reason, especially without the coach's approval. The student-athlete involved should be the one that will request permission to miss practice. If a student-athlete misses practice, they will be expected to make up all conditioning from the practiced missed. After the 3rd unexcused absence, bring your uniform and practice equipment to turn in the next day.

P. ATHLETIC INJURIES

All injuries to an athlete should be reported to the coach. In case of serious injury, the principal should be notified as quickly as possible. If medical care is called for, the choice of physician should be made by the parent(s)/guardian of the athlete.

Q. LETTERING POLICY

Letters will be awarded to deserving athletes at the Junior High and Varsity levels in sports where teams are fielded at the level of play. Deserving athletes will only be awarded one Junior High letter and one Varsity letter. Bars and pins will be awarded for multiple spots played at the same level after the first letter is given. Each coach shall determine his/her criteria for lettering purposes, subject to the approval of the administration. The coach will also make the athletes aware of the lettering criteria prior to the start of the season. In each sport, the coach shall determine if an athlete is eligible for a Junior High or Varsity Letter. The athlete must participate in at least two-thirds of: volleyball games, basketball quarters, baseball innings, and cheerleading-games.

R. SCHEDULING CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Many of our student athletes compete in multiple interscholastic activities. There may be situations where our seasons coincide or perhaps the two seasons overlap. When this happens the following hierarchy will be used to determine which events the student-athlete will compete/perform.

- National Event/Competition
- State Competition
- District/Sub-State Competition
- Conference Event
- Interscholastic Event
- School Performances
- Sub-Varsity Event
- Required Practice/Dress Rehearsal
- Regular Practice

***When two events are of equal weight the student will be allowed to choose which event/performance to participate.

III. College Bound Student-Athletes

A. NCAA ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS

To practice and play as a freshman at an NCAA Division 1 or 11 College. the student-athlete must satisfy the requirements of NCAA by-law 14.3, commonly known as Proposition 48. A student-athlete must:

1. Graduate from high school.
2. Attain a G.P.A. (grade point average) of 2.00 in a successfully completed core curriculum of at least eleven academic courses.

•

3. Achieve a minimum S.A.T. (Scholastic Aptitude Test) combined score of 700 or minimum of 18 composite on the A.C.T. (American College Test).
4. 4.) File a release form with the NCAA clearing house at the beginning of the senior year.

B. NAIA ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS

To be eligible to participate at an NAIA college, a freshman must meet two of the following three entry level requirements:

1. Score 18 on the ACT or 700 on the SAT
2. Achieve an overall high school G.P.A. 2.00
3. Graduate in the top half of his/her graduating class

C. JUNIOR COLLEGE ELIGIBILITY

Junior Colleges vary widely on their requirements. Contact the school's registrar for specific requirements.

IV. Parent/Coach Communication

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

A. COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH/SPONSOR

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e., practices, special equipment, out-of-season conditioning.
5. Procedure followed should your child be injured during participation.

B. COMMUNICATION COACHES/SPONSORS EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

*** As your child(ren) becomes involved in the interscholastic programs at Bunker R-3 School District, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times discussion with the coach/sponsor is encouraged.

C. APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES/SPONSORS

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very important to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. Coaches make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be **best for all students involved**. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with child's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

- D. ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES
 - 1. Playing Time
 - 2. Team Strategy
 - 3. Play Calling
 - 4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

- E. IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH/SPONSOR, THE PROCEDURE YOU SHOULD FOLLOW:
 - 1. Call to set up an appointment.
 - 2. The Bunker R-3 phone number is 689-2211.
 - 3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director. A meeting will be set up for you.
 - 4. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A GAME OR PRACTICE. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
- F. WHAT TO DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION:
 - 1. Call to set up an appointment with the athletic director or administration to discuss the situation.

Research indicates a student involved in interscholastic activities has greater chance for success during adulthood. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school.

BUNKER R-3 SCHOOL DISTRICT GUIDELINE FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

I acknowledge receipt of, and have studied and understand the Bunker R-3 School District Interscholastic Student-Athlete Handbook. We agree to abide by these rules and those established by the MSHSAA and Black River League Conference.

As a student-athlete participant at Bunker R-3 I have not, nor am I currently serving court assigned probation, owe a fine or restitution, or have been assigned community service for violation of the law. I understand that participating on an interscholastic team while my character is not at the highest level jeopardizes not only my eligibility but, that of my teammates.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

This sheet must be signed by the parties indicated and returned to the head coach/sponsor of the appropriate activity before the student will be allowed to participate.

•

STUDENT/ATHLETE DRUG TESTING PROGRAM

The Bunker R-3 School District feels very strongly about its obligation to provide a drug-free environment at its school. It also feels that students who participate in extra-curricular activities, which both demands physical exertion and which places students in a special role-model position to other students, should be expected to demonstrate this drug-free life style by not participating in activities which involves the taking of illegal drugs. The District conducts drug tests on a random basis of students in grades 7-12 who participate in athletics for the District. For the purpose of this policy, volleyball, baseball, basketball, and cheerleading are classified as athletes. Students and their parents/guardians must complete and sign this drug testing permission form before the student will be allowed to participate in any athletic practice or contest for the school district.

I understand that by signing this form, I am giving the Bunker R-3 School District permission to collect and have tested a urine sample from the participant identified below. I have been assured by the District that the results of these tests will only be shared with school personnel who have a need to know, and that tests results will not become a part of the participant's permanent record, or be used by the school for reasons other than to determine the eligibility of the participant in extra-curricular activities within the District. The results of the testing will be revealed to me as the parent/guardian of the participant. If for any reason, I feel that the test results are incorrect, I have the right to have the test sample tested by another certified lab at my expense.

NAME OF PARTICIPANT: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____

DATE: _____