

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

All athletes are expected to fulfill the academic and citizenship requirements of the IHSAA and abide by the rules and regulations identified in this handbook. Participation by students from other local schools in our corporation is allowed for some extra-curricular activities. *Cheerleading, Golf, Volleyball and Basketball participation will be limited to Seymour Middle School students only. All SMS student athletes will be prohibited from participating in more than one sport per athletic season without a granted waiver from Seymour Middle School. This includes playing for Seymour Middle School and/or other local teams.*

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

- 1) **Students may not participate in extracurricular activities at Seymour Middle School if they have more than one "F" during the current grading period at the point when eligibility checks are conducted.**
- 2) Extra-curricular eligibility checks will occur between the fourth and fifth week of each grading period. This will allow for four checks during each semester and at least one check during each athletic season.
- 3) A student, who is eligible at the end of the grading period and has a failing grade at the time of the eligibility check, will become ineligible to participate in games and/or contests until the end of the grading period. However, the student will be permitted to continue practicing with the team until grades are issued.
- 4) A student making more than one failing grade at the end of a grading period will be ineligible to participate in games and/or contests on an extra-curricular team. Should they improve their grades to the point of not having a failing grade at the time of the eligibility check, they will be reinstated as a team member and allowed to participate in games and/or contests.
- 5) The **athletic director** will be responsible for the distribution and compiling of information, notification of coaches and participants concerning individual status.

ATTENDANCE

Athletes and other students participating in extracurricular activities may not participate in practice or contests if they are absent more than four class periods on the day of the practice or contest. Students with an unexcused absence will not be permitted to practice or participate in a contest.

INTERSCHOOL GUIDELINES FOR MIDDLE LEVEL SCHOOLS (IHSAA)

The purpose of these guidelines shall be to encourage, unify and give direction to wholesome amateur interschool athletic competition between middle level grade students. All such interschool athletic competition coming under the suggested guidelines shall be sub-servant to and complementary to the academic or curricular functions of the schools which are their primary purposes. To assure that the program of interschool athletic competition remains steadfast to the principles of wholesome amateur athletics and subservient to its primary academic or curricular functions of education of the middle level school, schools should cooperate with agencies vitally concerned with the health and educational welfare of school students; furnish protection against exploitation of schools or their students; determine guidelines for qualifications of individual contestants, coaches, and officials; and provide written communications to establish guideline standards for eligibility, competition and sportsmanship.

RULE 7 – CONDUCT, CHARACTER, DISCIPLINE

Section 1 - Contestants' conduct, in and out of school, should be such as (a) not to reflect discredit upon their school, or (b) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school.

RULE 12 – PARTICIPATION

Section 1 – Participation in an athletic contest on any other similar team during the same season in which they represent their school in that sport, is prohibited.

Section 3 – Participation of students in an organized athletic contest with or against players not belonging to their school constitutes a game. An organized "scrimmage" or practice by students with or against teams or players not belonging to their school is considered a game.

SEYMOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR “CODE OF CONDUCT”

Seymour Middle School, for the Seymour Community School Corporation, must certify the eligibility of all contestants participating in extracurricular programs. The following athletic teams are available to students of Seymour Middle School and 6th Grade Center.

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Cross Country 6, 7, 8	Boys Basketball 6, 7, 8	Boys Track (*6), 7, 8
Football 7, 8	Girls Basketball 6, 7, 8	Girls Track (*6), 7, 8
Volleyball 6, 7, 8	Swimming 6, 7, 8	Golf 6, 7, 8
Boys Tennis 6, 7, 8	Wrestling 6, 7, 8	Girls Tennis 6, 7, 8
Cheerleading 7, 8	Cheerleading 7, 8	

(*6) Indicates that only those 6th grade students who run cross country in the fall are eligible to run track in the spring.

Students may participate in only one sport per athletic season*. Swimming begins in early March and the season is approximately one month in length. Athletes who participate in other winter sports will be permitted to swim. (*Students must be granted a written waiver to do more than one sport per season.)

In order to represent Seymour Middle school in interscholastic activities participants must meet the following criteria:

- A. **Consent for Participation:** All participants must have a student, parent/physician statement on file in the office of the athletic director prior to the start of practice. There are no exceptions to this rule. Physicals are valid from April 1, 2017 through May of 2018. Physicals dated before April 1, 2017 are invalid for the 2017-2018 school year.
- B. **Insurance/Waiver Information:** All students who participate in extracurricular activities at Seymour Middle School are encouraged to have some form of insurance coverage. Middle school participants must sign the waiver section of the physical form if family coverage is sufficient. This form must be completed prior to the start of practice. Students who have no family coverage should have a written release from the parent and attached to the physical form.
- C. **Amateurism:** All participants must be amateurs. This means a student shall not play under assumed names nor accept money or merchandise, directly or indirectly for athletic participation.
- D. **Conduct:** Participants in extracurricular activities at Seymour Middle School are expected to display “better than minimum” standards of behavior. This includes, but is not limited to, conduct, appearance, and dress. Participants may be suspended when conduct brings discredit upon or creates a disruptive influence upon the discipline, good order, moral, or educational environment of Seymour Middle School.
- E. **Outside Participation:** Students who participate in an athletic contest for another team in a similar sport in the same season in which they represent Seymour Middle School will become ineligible to compete on the middle school team(s) without prior written consent of Seymour Middle School through the waiver process.
- F. **Suspension from school:** School suspensions may take one of two forms at the middle school. The suspensions are either in school or out-of-school. In either case, a student who is suspended from school is ineligible to participate in, or attend, any school related function until the suspension is completed. This would include any practice, game, or performance during the suspension period. Individual coaches may have further rules pertaining to this situation.
- G. **Detentions:** Students who receive detention from a teacher or administrator will be expected to serve the detention at the earliest possible time. Practice or games will not be an excuse for failure to avoid serving the detention. Students failing to serve their detention in a timely manner (the next available day) will be suspended from practice and/or games until they have met their responsibility.

- I. **Training rules:** The use of/ or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, non-prescription drugs, or narcotics may result in the suspension from programs at Seymour Middle School.
- H. **Individual sport rules:** It is understood that coaches/sponsor may, and are encouraged to, establish and enforce rules specific to the program they are working within. These rules will be in addition to the rules established in this code.

This document is a summary of the rules for extracurricular activities at Seymour Middle School. Additional questions should be directed to the principal, athletic director, or coach/sponsor. Parents and students should also be aware of the potential of serious injury when participating in an athletic program. Some injuries sustained may be serious enough to have an altering effect on the quality of life of the student involved.

All students will be responsible for filling out and returning a Medical History and Consent to Treat form prior to the first event of the contest season.