

[2017-2018]

Athletic Handbook

*Northeast Nodaway R-V School District
~~Parnell - Ravenwood~~*



Effort * Sacrifice * Dedication

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter to Parents and Athletes.....	3
NEN Expectations.....	4
Good Sportsmanship Code	5
Northeast Nodaway Extra-Curricular Philosophy.....	5-6
Integrity.....	6
The Student Athlete’s Bill of Rights.....	6
Unsportsmanlike Conduct	7
Physical Exams and Insurance Requirements	7
Protect Your Eligibility.....	7-8
Use/Possession of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs	9
Inappropriate Use of Technology.....	9
Athlete’s Appearance.....	9
Practices	9
Transportation to Activities.....	9
Field Trips	10
Days of Contest.....	10
Lettering.....	10
Equipment	10
Debits Due to Loss of Equipment	10-11
Academic Policy	11
Academic Requirements for Participation.....	11
Suspensions.....	12
Quitting	12
Parent/Coach/Athlete Relationship.....	12-13
S.T.E.P.S.....	13
Expectation of Coaches	13
Expectation of Players.....	14-15
Expectation of Parents and Patrons	15
Expectation of Faculty, Administration, and Board Members	16
Activity/Athletic Commitment Pledge	17
Northeast Nodaway Coaching Staff	18

Letter to Parents and Students

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student/Athlete:

Please take a few moments to read this letter. Hopefully, this will help you understand how a competitive program is conducted and what comprises our expectations and philosophy.

1. In each program, a coach and/or coaches are hired by the school district to be responsible for team selection. The head coach establishes criteria for selection, possibly with input from the entire coaching staff. This may be a highly subjective process. Team selection, practices, and decisions regarding game situations are the responsibility of the coaching staff. Please call the athletic director to make an appointment with the coach outside of school, practice or game time.
2. Our experience in athletics reveals there are many “select teams” sponsored by many different organizations. Each coach looks for something different in his or her players. Participation on a “select team” does not guarantee any player a spot on another “select team” or any high school team. While we believe players can gain valuable experience outside of the school athletic program, neither parents nor students should count on this type of participation to “guarantee” a spot on a high school team.
3. In order to make a varsity team as an upperclassman, a player must be outstanding and also play a position the team needs. Underclass student-athletes possessing these qualities have the same opportunity to make a team as the upperclassman does. At selection time, it will be the coaches’ decision.
4. Each member of the team is very valuable to the team’s overall progress. Starting positions and playing time are not guaranteed to anyone on the team. Some members may play a great deal of time in a contest while others may not see what a parent would consider “significant” playing time. Each student should have personal improvement as one of his/her goals.

By being a member of a team, regardless of time spent in actual competition, a person can learn many valuable lessons. Among them are the following: citizenship, sportsmanship, appreciating good play by an opponent, working together to meet team goals, responsibility and commitment to team and school, loyalty, placing team above self, learning to accept instruction and criticism, respect for others, winning and losing with dignity, self-control, and being responsible for one’s own actions.

We sincerely hope this helps you to understand the goals and philosophies of the competitive athletic program in the Northeast Nodaway School. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding any aspect of the athletic program.

Vance Proffitt
Northeast Nodaway Athletic Director



NEN Expectations

NEN District Mission Statement: Promoting student success daily in a caring environment.

Students will.....	Parents will....	The School will....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present • Be respectful • Be patient • Be coachable/teachable • Give 100% effort in academics and extra-curricular efforts • Practice their skills on their own time--this is essential for improvement • Show good sportsmanship • Show pride • Hold themselves and their peers accountable • Be motivated • Sacrifice individual needs for the best interest of the team/class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce student expectations • Be supportive of team/students • Be patient • Provide outside of school opportunities • Be a spectator • Show respect and support for students/coaches/teachers/staff/officials • Model sacrifice, effort and dedication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforce student expectations • Be supportive of teams/students • Show respect and support for students/coaches/teachers/staff/officials/parents • Model sacrifice, effort and dedication • Set and communicate goals and expectations for every program • Provide guidance for early learning programs • Provide a variety of year-round learning opportunities for all students • Recruit, train and retain staff that are positive role models for students, not their friends

The Northeast Nodaway School District is a member of the 275 Conference and Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). As members of these groups, we adhere to policies set down for the display of good sportsmanship by athletes, students, fans, parents and patrons. Member schools are to enforce sportsmanship rules for our own school, players and spectators. Violation of rules can result in the following consequences: written reprimand, probation, suspension, ejection or permanent removal from events. Consequences are in force for players, coaches, students, parents and fans. All school discipline policies and rules apply to the Northeast Nodaway School District students at school activities whether they are held on school property or away from school.

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP CODE

For Players, Coaches and Fans

1. Maintain pride in self and school.
2. Strive to keep high standards of conduct.
3. Cheering is always encouraged for one's own team.
4. No taunts, chants, noises, cheers, songs, profanity, signs or motions directed to the opposing team, coach, school or officials. Treat everyone with respect.
5. No disrespect will be shown to the opposing team during introductions.
6. No noisemakers.
7. No continuous standing.
8. Abide by the decisions of officials.
9. Accept victory or defeat graciously.

NORTHEAST NODAWAY R-V SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR PHILOSOPHY

The extra-curricular activities at Northeast Nodaway R-V School District are closely coordinated with the highest possible level of academic excellence. Participation by a student in the extra-curricular activities should aid the students' growth in all related areas and should improve the academic pursuit of excellence.

Students will be encouraged to participate in activities and provide leadership among the student body. Northeast Nodaway will have the responsibility to encourage a student to secure the best record he/she can achieve, while seeking the outer limits of their capabilities.

The safety and well-being of the students, while participating in extra-curricular activities, is a serious responsibility and will be made a priority.

The sponsors of activities have the responsibility to train students in sportsmanship, in motivation, in self-discipline, in loyalty, in leadership, in extra effort, in the development of a positive attitude, and in individual self-esteem.

Team activities will be designed to teach young people how to work together to accomplish a positive and successful result.

The aims and objectives of the middle school and sub-varsity activities are different from the aims and objectives of the varsity activities.

In all middle school and sub-varsity activities, the emphasis should be on skill development and participation.

As in all aspects of education, students do not progress at the same rate. Therefore, care must be taken that the varying skill levels of all students are considered. While it may be difficult for all members of the squad to participate equally in contests or practices, an athlete at this level should have the fullest opportunity to develop himself or herself as a person.

Varsity level activities are for those students who have demonstrated the most skill and best attitude. The objective of varsity level activities is to successfully compete in interscholastic competition.

At all levels, sportsmanship shall be promoted and encouraged. Fair play, courtesy, generosity and self-control shall not be sacrificed in the desire to win.

INTEGRITY

More than anything else in this world, I wish to have integrity. More than money, more than prestige, more than power.....I seek integrity. What is this thing I seek?

At its root, the word means unity or wholeness. An integer is a whole number - one that isn't divided into fractions. To integrate is to blend all ingredients.

A man of integrity is unified - not divided against himself. He does not say one thing and do another. He is at peace within and displays serenity without.

A man of integrity is whole - not lacking any ingredient. He has a boldness to try and the compassion to comfort. He has the patience to wait, the persistence to keep on, and the poise to give in.

The man of integrity knows that honor is more important than honesty...that is, knows that honor means not only what he is legally obligated to do but also what he is morally required to do. Thus, the man of integrity has a highly developed conscience... and he listens to it, having the courage to act on his convictions.

The man of integrity, in other words, is obedient to the unenforceable. No one makes him choose a code of conduct that is a cut above the norm... he does it anyway. No one makes him obey his conscience...he does it anyway. No one makes him love his God...he does it anyway.

That is the man I seek to be, but am not yet, and may never fully be.



The Student Athlete's Bill of Rights

ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT....

1. To take part in the activities of their choice, free from the pressure or ridicule of those who would have them choose another.
2. To be coached by persons who are professional in their conduct.
3. To be provided the equipment and protection necessary to enable them to participate safely.
4. To expect their chosen activities to be treated with the same dignity and respect as other school activities.
5. To be coached by persons who have more interest in the students, their well-being, and their development than they do in winning or personal goals.
6. To engage in competition at a level they can enjoy.
7. To have an atmosphere free from alcohol, drugs, and foul language.
8. To be free of pressures from coaches to participate or practice illegally.
9. To be free of pressure to participate in camps, clinics, or outside teams in order to be part of the school team.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

CONSEQUENCES OF UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT OF AN ATHLETE:

1. Incidents involving athletes where a player is guilty of deliberately striking an opposing player, using profane or vulgar language, or using abusive language toward officials; will result in the coach removing that individual immediately from participating in the remainder of that game; and not to be allowed to participate in the next contest.
2. The second offense of this nature shall cause an athlete to be suspended for (30) thirty calendar days from all athletic events.
3. The third offense of this nature shall cause an athlete to be suspended for (1) one full calendar year from all athletic events.
4. The fourth offense of this nature shall cause an athlete to be suspended permanently from all athletic events.
5. Any player of a Northeast Nodaway School team who shall warrant a Special Report from the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHSAA) for any unsportsmanlike, flagrant, or any inappropriate behavior shall cause the (4) four preceding steps to be invoked.
6. It shall be set up to the discretion of the administration and coaches whether other incidents during, before, and after athletic events fall into the above categories.

Physician Exams and Insurance Requirements

Athletic By-Law 309 (a) in the MSHSAA handbook states: “The school shall require of each student participating in athletics or an activity performance group a physician’s certificate stating that he or she is physically able to participate in athletic contests or performance groups. The medical certificate is valid for the purpose of this rule if issued after February 1st of the previous year. This certificate must be on file before the student will be allowed to practice with any of the Northeast Nodaway School District’s athletic teams.”

Athletic By-Law 309 (b) in the above handbook states: “A student shall not be permitted to practice or compete for a school until it has verification that he or she has basic insurance coverage. (Also on file).”

All physical forms will be kept with the team for away games. This is the coach’s responsibility.

Protect Your Eligibility

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), of which the Northeast Nodaway School District is a member, is a voluntary, nonprofit, educational association of junior and senior high schools established for the purpose of working cooperatively in adopting standards for supervising and regulating interscholastic activities and contests.

One of the primary functions of the MSHSAA is to establish eligibility standards that must be met by all students to attain the privilege of representing their school in interscholastic activities.

Eligibility is a PRIVILEGE to be granted by the school to a student, which allows that student to participate in interscholastic activities. Eligibility is NOT A STUDENT’S RIGHT BY LAW. Precedent setting legal cases has determined that eligibility is a privilege to be granted only if the student meets all standards adopted by the school, which enables the school to grant the student such a privilege.

Listed below is information to acquaint you with the major rules and regulations you must follow in order to protect your eligibility.

1. You must be a creditable school citizen. Creditable school citizens are those students whose conduct, both in and out of school, will not reflect discredit upon themselves or their schools.
2. Academics

- a. You must be enrolled in courses offering 2.50 units of credit. (This is normally five courses).
 - b. You must have earned 2.50 units of credit the preceding semester.
3. Transferring schools
- a. If you transfer schools and your parents do not move to your new school district, you will be ineligible for 365 days, unless you meet one of the exceptions to the transfer or promotion rules. (See your principal or activities director).
 - b. If you move with your parents to your new school district you will be eligible immediately.
4. Participation limits
- a. You are eligible to participate in any sport for a maximum of four seasons. Any part of a game played during a season counts as a season of participation.
 - b. Your eligibility to participate in high school activities begins when you first enter the ninth grade and lasts for the first eight semesters that you are enrolled in high school. Your eighth semester must immediately follow your seventh semester.
5. You must enter school within the first 11 days of the semester to be eligible.
6. Awards standards
- a. You may not receive cash, merchandise, or gift certificates for participating in an athletic contest.
 - b. You may accept awards that are symbolic in nature, such as medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, etc., for participating in a school athletic program. These awards may be received only from your school, from a school hosting an event, or from the MSHSAA
 - c. You may accept awards for participating in non-school-sponsored athletic competition only if the awards are symbolic in nature, such as medals, trophies, ribbons, plaques, etc.
7. If you reach the age of 19 prior to July 1, you will be ineligible for interscholastic competition the next school year.
8. Non-school competition
- a. You may not participate in any organized non-school athletic competition and your school team **IN THE SAME SPORT** during the same season.
 - b. You may participate on a school team and a non-school team in different sports during the same season; however, you may not practice or compete in non-school organized athletic competition **ON THE SAME DAY** that you practice or compete with your school team without approval of the school administration.
 - c. Before you join any non-school team or enter any non-school competition involving athletics, check with the activities director to make certain these standards are being met.
9. You may participate in an “audition” or “tryout” for a college team only after you have completed your last season of eligibility in the sport for which you wish to tryout.
10. You may not compete in an all-star game or contest before you complete your eligibility in all high school sports.
11. Sports camps/clinics
- a. You may attend a non-school sponsored summer specialized sports camp for as long as you wish, where you do not receive instruction or coaching from a member of your school’s coaching staff.
 - b. You may not attend a specialized athletic camp during the school year.
 - c. You may attend a camp or clinic where your school’s coaching staff instructs or coaches for a period no longer than two weeks in duration.
12. Any individual receiving information concerning colleges for scholarship opportunities for our students/athletes will be distributed by the specific coaches.

A REMINDER: Any questions pertaining to eligibility that is not answered above should be brought to the attention of the athletic director.

Use and/or Possession of Tobacco and Alcohol

The coaching staff and administration of Northeast Nodaway High School believe a fit body and alert mind are essential to success on the athletic field as well as in life. Because athletics should lead to greater levels of strength, endurance, vitality, and the development of desirable health habits, we endorse the following regulations:

FIRST OFFENSE: Suspension for the next 3 contests that the student is eligible to participate.

SECOND OFFENSE: Removed from the team for the remainder of the season.

THIRD OFFENSE: Suspension for (1) calendar year from all athletic events.

FOURTH OFFENSE: Permanent suspension from athletics.

Use and/or Possession of Drugs

Use and/or possession of drugs will cause removal from current athletic team and any team to follow for the remainder of the school year. All offenses shall be reported to the athletic director to be kept in the permanent records. These rules become effective and apply at any grade level that Northeast Nodaway School offers in interscholastic sports. (Grades 7-12) Each offense will be placed on the athlete's permanent record and will carry over from season to season.

Inappropriate Use of Technology

No student shall use an electronic device in a way that results in a school, classroom, team or bus disruption, bullying, criminal activity and/or academic dishonesty. Electronic devices cannot be used without the permission of a staff member. In addition, electronic devices are prohibited in dressing areas. Disciplinary action is at administrative discretion, but according to board policy 2656 will include out-of-school suspension for first and subsequent offenses.

Athlete's Appearance

NO athletes are to wear caps in school buildings or while in school issued uniforms. Any tattoos that an athlete may have **MUST** be covered regardless of the nature of it. All athletes, student managers, statisticians, camera people, etc. or anyone riding the activity bus must wear appropriate attire. Boy's hair and facial hair must be neat and well groomed, while girl's hair must be neat and well groomed.

Practices

No practices, "skill" sessions, film viewing, etc. involving students will be held on Sundays, school holidays, or snow days without the permission of the Principal or in his/her absence, the Superintendent. All practices must be conducted on school grounds and facilities unless permission is granted by the Athletic Director, Principal, or Superintendent.

Attendance at practice is vital to the growth and success of your team. All absences from practice must be excused through your coach and the school administration. If you are absent from practice and it is considered an unexcused absence, the following apply at the discretion of the head coach:

1st Unexcused Absence from Practice: Additional cardio activity at the discretion of the coach

2nd Unexcused Absence from Practice: 1 game suspension

3rd Unexcused Absence from Practice: Dismissal from the team

If you have an unexcused absence from a game you will automatically be dismissed from the team.

Transportation to Activities

Extra-curricular transportation is being provided by the school district. This includes athletic and academic contests. The coaches and sponsors cannot be involved in transporting athletes for liability purposes.



Field Trips

If an athletic event and academic field trip are scheduled at the same time, students should not be pressured by either coach or teacher in making their decisions of which to attend. The student must make their decision based on what is best for them. The player must realize that their grades may be affected in class and that they may also lose playing time if another player beats them out due to missing practice. However, an athlete is not to be punished by withholding playing time solely because they attended a field trip.

Days of Contest

Students must be at school for the whole day (four and a half clock hours) to be eligible that day. Approved absences will be given by the principal. MSHSAA policy also states that if a student misses classes without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes (or has an excused absence from class) without an unexcused absence. For example, if a student has an unexcused absence all day on Friday, that student is ineligible to compete in an event on Saturday. Notification needs to be received in the office by 12:15 pm on the preceding Friday in order to be eligible to participate in a Saturday event.

Lettering

The athletic letter at Northeast Nodaway School District is a badge of honor bestowed on an individual student for outstanding service to the school in a sport. It stands as a testament that this student has reached high standards and is held in high regard among the students and faculty at Northeast Nodaway. The acceptance and wearing of the school letter indicates special responsibilities for the student in the areas of citizenship, morality, and social standards. Each coach will set standards for lettering in each individual sport or activity. At the end of a season, the athletic director and coach will designate a day as a uniform/equipment check-in day. On this day, athletes are asked to turn in their uniform/equipment. If the athlete does not turn in **ALL** of their equipment/uniform, the athlete will be deducted points towards their letter.

Equipment

Students are responsible for any and all equipment that is issued to them. A student will be expected to pay for any equipment lost or stolen from them. School equipment is in high demand, and each student must take the highest degree of care in transporting and storing equipment.

To insure the security of your equipment, the following steps should be followed:

1. Do not loan or exchange any of the equipment issued to you.
2. Keep your locker **LOCKED AT ALL TIMES** when not in visual contact with the locker.
3. Report any lost equipment to the head coach/sponsor.
4. All equipment should be worn at school and never outside of school unless permitted by the head coach/sponsor.
5. Any equipment or uniform you may see out of school which does not belong to the individual or individuals should be reported to the coach or the athletic director. By doing this, you are not only helping the athletic department, but also the individuals who must pay for the stolen items.

Debits Due to Loss of Equipment

Expensive equipment and uniforms are checked out to the athletes for their use in our programs. The athletes and their parents are responsible for the proper care and washing procedures of these items. Items that are lost, stolen, damaged through improper use, and excessively faded, or discolored by improper washing procedures

will be paid for by the athlete or his/her parents. These measures are necessary to enable the athletic program to continue to outfit and provide the safest equipment affordable.

If an athlete and his/her parents owe money to the athletic account because of unreturned or damaged equipment, he/she will not be allowed to participate in a game of another sport. The athlete will be allowed to practice the next sport, thus giving him/her an appropriate amount of time to hand in the equipment or pay the fee.

Academic Policy

To remain eligible, a student must maintain satisfactory work in the classroom. Students in grades 7-12 will be governed by the schools accepted ineligibility policy. The above MSHAA rules also apply to a student with an IEP. If a student becomes ineligible by the MSHSAA rules, then the MSHSAA rules supersede the local board policy.

Academic Requirements for Participation

Any student who represents Northeast Nodaway in interscholastic activities must meet the eligibility requirements.

Northwest Nodaway Eligibility Policy

1. MSHSAA requirements for students to be able to participate/play in sports the next semester for High School students and the next quarter for Junior High students are:
 - High School students cannot fail (receive an 'F') more than one class per semester for eligibility.
 - Junior High students cannot fail (receive an 'F') more than one class per quarter for eligibility.
 2. The Northeast Nodaway School District will check grades every two weeks:
 - Each student will receive one two week probationary period per academic year under the eligibility policy. The first time a student earns an F on a grade check they will not lose eligibility but will be required to attend intervention accordingly. Additional F's throughout the academic year will result in a student being ineligible for participation effective that grade check.
 - At Grade Check points, if any student (grades 7th – 12th) has an 'F', they will be ineligible until the next grade check.
 - If a student receives an 'F' at the end of the quarter or semester they are automatically ineligible for the first two weeks of the next quarter.
 - If a student is absent 10% or more of class time they may be deemed ineligible.
- If a student is ineligible, they can attend but not participate in extra-curricular activities. The student may not miss any school minutes in order to attend the activity.
 -
 - When student is ineligible, they will be required to attend tutoring sessions with the teacher of the course they are failing. This tutoring will occur during the school intervention period as assigned by school personnel.

Eligibility of IEP students will be determined by the student's IEP. If a student becomes ineligible by the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHSAA) rules, the MSHSAA rules will supersede local board policy. This policy/regulation affects any student in grades 7-12, involved in an activity other than the regular school day or other than activities that are graded or classroom requirements. For example, including but not limited to, students would not be able to participate in any high school or middle school activities, participate in sports activities, academic meets, field trips, dances, etc. if they are ineligible. Any exceptions would have to be approved by the building principal.

Suspensions

Students in grades 7-12 who have been given a suspension (in school and out) will not be eligible to attend any activities including practice until the suspension has been served. Any coach or sponsor shall have the authority to set any additional eligibility requirements which are more restrictive as they deem necessary.

Students with Individual Education Plans (IEP) will be considered on an individual basis and the decision will be based on their IEP's and be made by a team consisting of the building principal, counselor, special education instructor and all teachers involved in the IEP case.

Quitting

If a student quits their team during the season, they will not be allowed to attend the remainder of the contests for that season. Administrative discretion will be used in determining participation on future teams.

Parent/Athlete/Coach Relationship

We hope this information will make both you and your child's experience with the Northeast Nodaway School Athletic program enjoyable.

COMMUNICATIONS

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. Coaches and parents both want the athletes to have a positive experience as they participate in the sport or activity. Communication is the key to making the positive experience become a reality. Athletes, parents and coaches are all responsible for effective communications.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PLAYERS

1. Athletes should express concerns immediately and directly to the coach.
2. Notification to appropriate personnel (well in advance time) of any scheduling conflicts.
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your children become involved in the programs at Northeast Nodaway, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM THE COACH

1. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as for all players on the squad.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off season conditioning.
4. Procedures should your child be injured during participation.
5. Discipline that does result in the denial of your child's participation.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH THE COACH

1. Concerns regarding your child's mental and physical status.
2. Ways to help your child improve in the activity.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They 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 and should be discussed with your child's coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO TALK WITH COACH ABOUT

1. Team strategy
2. Play calling
3. Other student-athletes
4. Selection of players

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.

S.T.E.P.S. (Steps to Encourage Positive Solutions)

Situations will arise at Northeast Nodaway throughout the school year which causes concern for parents, teachers, and students. Resolving these situations quickly to the satisfaction of all parties involved benefits the educational program of the district. "S.T.E.P.S." should help you resolve problem situations quickly and satisfactorily. Please follow these steps if you have a concern.

Step 1: Contact the appropriate staff member. The first step in resolving a concern is to discuss it with the staff member involved - the teacher, the coach, the bus driver, etc. More than 95% of all concerns are resolved at this level.

Step 2: Contact the principal or immediate supervisor (athletic or transportation director). If Step 1 does not resolve your concern, discuss it with the principal or the employee's immediate supervisor. The principal is the professional educator in charge of the building and the person responsible for handling concerns regarding the school's operations. The principal and other supervisors can share building information and explain policies, guidelines, and procedures. If you have not attempted to resolve the concern with the immediate person involved, you will be asked to do so at this step.

Step 3: Contact the Superintendent. If you feel that your concern has not been adequately resolved after following Steps 1 and 2, contact the Superintendent.

Step 4: Contact the School Board. If your concern has not been addressed in Steps 1-3, you can contact the board. Your concern must be in a written request to the Superintendent for consideration by the board.

Expectations of Coaches:

The coach and coaching staff are responsible for team selection by establishing their own criteria for selection, which may be highly subjective. Coach and coaching staff are not obligated to produce nor adhere to a set of controlled criteria that guarantee students to make the team or receive a certain amount of playing time.

Coaches and Coaching staff are responsible for setting practices and for making all decisions regarding game situations.

Coaches and coaching staff are responsible for clearly communicating expectations for team members as well as communicating the location and time of all practices and contests. These expectations should be discussed in a meeting with players and parents (together or separately) prior to the season and should also be in written format.

Coaches and coaching staff are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner that reflects favorably on the school not only during contests, but in practice sessions, while traveling and in the locker rooms. Coaches and coaching staff should always be mindful that they represent the school in public and in private. They should remember that whatever is spoken or conveyed by behavior to a team or team member in public or in private will most likely be repeated to a friend, a parent, a teacher or administrator, and they should be ready to stand by such words or behavior.

Coaches and coaching staff are responsible to make sure that every participating student has the proper equipment and protection to participate in the sport safely. They are also responsible for making sure all participating students have met the eligibility requirements physically, academically and as required by MSHSAA and NEN.

Coaches and coaching staff are responsible for making sure at least one of their staff or an Administrative / Faculty substitute are traveling with team members on bus trips.

Coaches and coaching staff are expected to treat every student, parent and patron with respect irregardless of that person's behavior toward them.

Coaches and coaching staff are accountable for keeping accurate records and statistics of their team and players and reporting this to the Athletic Director.

Chain of Command Should a Problem Arise with a student athlete:

Coach should discuss and try to resolve the problem with student athlete first. If this is unsuccessful, coach should involve an administrator to try to resolve problem with student athlete. Student athlete's parent/s should then be invited to join coach, student, and administrator to resolve problem. If unsuccessful, this should be taken to the athletic committee of the NEN School Board.

(These steps should not take away the Coach's discretion to remove a player from the team or to limit playing time of the player. These powers remain in the discretion of the coach while these steps are being followed).

Expectations of Players:

Players are expected to abide by all guidelines set by coaches, coaching staff, school and MSHSAA.

Participating on "select" teams outside of school does not guarantee a spot on the high school team. They should be looked upon as a way to gain valuable experience, but players need to remember it is the coach's discretion as to who makes the team and how much playing time is given.

Upperclassmen and lowerclassmen have the same opportunities to make the team. A player is chosen by ability to play and position needed and at the discretion of the coach. There should be no expectation to make the team or to play simply due to grade level.

Failure to adhere to the coach and coaching staff's expectations may result in removal from the team or lack of playing time. However adherence to the expectations of the coach and coaching staff does not and should not guarantee playing time, but should be looked upon as contribution to the team's goals.

Personal Improvement should be the goal of every athlete. Every player is valuable to the team in practice and in competition regardless of playing time. Starting positions and playing time are not guaranteed to anyone on the team.

Players are expected to express their concerns directly and respectfully to coaches and coaching staff at appropriate times.

Players are expected to notify the coach of any schedule conflicts well in advance of an event or practice, remembering it is the coach's discretion as to how these conflicts will be handled regarding participation and playing time.

Players are expected to take care of and return all uniforms or equipment that has been loaned for sport participation. Students will be expected to pay for any equipment or uniforms lost, damaged or stolen unless the damage occurred under game conditions.

Students are expected to follow the coach's code of conduct and dress code for **every** game.

Chain of Command if a problem arises:

Student should address concern directly with coach/coaching staff. Student should address concern with administrator and coach, or administrator alone, if student feels it necessary to leave coach out of discussion. At any time, student should discuss problem with his/her parent and parent will be allowed in process if they so choose. If problem is unresolved, student and parent may go to Superintendent for resolution. If still unresolved, student and parent may go to the school Board.

(These steps should not take away the Coach's discretion to remove a player from the team or to limit playing time of the player. These powers remain in the discretion of the coach while these steps are being followed).

Expectations of Parents and Patrons:

Parents are expected to attend coach's meetings, read coach's expectations and to read and sign athletic handbook. Signing of handbook indicates that parent knows and agrees to follow these guidelines.

Parents and Patrons are expected to follow good sportsmanship. See Sportsmanship Code listed.

Parents should schedule a meeting with the coach to air concerns outside of school time or outside of the event. It is not appropriate to approach a coach about concerns during the event or immediately after the event. It is appropriate to wait overnight and approach the coach about your concerns the following day. It is not appropriate to approach the coach about concerns during practice times.

Appropriate concerns to bring to coach and coaching staff include your child's mental, physical and academic status; seeking ways you can help your child improve in the activity; concerns about **your** child's behavior or the coach's / coaching staff's behavior.

Team strategy, play calling, playing time, other student athletes or selection of players may be of concern to you, but it must be understood that these are up to the discretion of the coach and coaching staff. These concerns may be shared, but if they are not followed by the coach, these are not appropriate reasons to proceed upon the chain of command (administrators, school board) to air your complaints.

Parents are expected to support the entire team. It is inappropriate to cheer exclusively for one's own child while disregarding the efforts of other team members and the team as a whole.

Chain of command should a problem arise:

Contact the appropriate staff member (coach, bus driver, teacher, etc.). More than 95% of problems can be resolved satisfactorily at this level. If unresolved, contact the principal or the Immediate Supervisor of the staff member involved (i.e. Athletic Director). Please keep in mind that the first question you will be asked when contacting this person is if you have followed Step 1 of contacting the appropriate staff member. If you have not done so, you will be directed to do this first. If still unresolved, contact Superintendent. If still unresolved, contact the NEN School Board. Again, you will be reminded to complete the previous steps prior to having this issue discussed by the board. Your request should come in writing to the Superintendent for this to be arranged.

Expectations of Faculty / Administrative Staff / School Board Members:

It is important to make sure all concerns are handled by the proper chain of command as outlined for Coaches, Students and Parents/Patrons. If someone comes to you with a concern it is expected that you will first ask that person if they have followed these steps, primarily talking directly to the party involved. Problems cannot be satisfactorily resolved if you step in prior to your place in the chain of command.

Support of Faculty, Administration and School Board members is important to setting an example to students, parents and patrons. Your attendance in and your behavior at an athletic contest, will set the tone for others to follow. If you do not follow the guidelines to good sportsmanship, there can be no expectation that others, including students, coaches and patrons as well as opponents, will follow them either.



ACTIVITY/ATHLETIC COMMITMENT PLEDGE
This pledge is agreed upon by receipt of signed Compliance Form

PARTICIPANT'S NAME (PRINT)	GRADE	SPORT/ACTIVITY
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Prior to participating in any practice or tryout sessions for any interscholastic sport, each athlete must:

1. Successfully pass a physical examination to participate in athletics, by a licensed physician and the copy of such examination must be on file in the athletic office of the building. Physical exam is valid if issued on or after February 1 of the previous school year.
2. Return this Activity/Athletic Commitment Pledge Form with the student and parent's signature.

As a school's student/athlete voluntarily participating in interscholastic activities/athletics, I acknowledge that:

1. I have read this Student Activity/Athletic Handbook and understand what the Northeast Nodaway School District expects from me in regard to the expectations set forth in this handbook and to sportsmanship, citizenship, scholastics, and staying free from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco use while enrolled in this school. I understand the consequences for violating school policy and I will not do so while a Northeast Nodaway School District student participant.
2. I will be responsible for all equipment issued to me throughout the season, will return such equipment at the conclusion of the season and will pay the current replacement cost for any of the equipment not accounted for by me at the end of the season.
3. I have been properly advised, cautioned, and warned by administrative and coaching personnel of the Northeast Nodaway School District that I am exposing myself to the risk of injury, including, but not limited to, the risk of sprains, fractures, and ligament and/or cartilage damage which could result in a temporary or permanent, partial, or complete impairment in the use of my limbs, brain damage, paralysis, or even death. Having been so cautioned and warned, it is still my desire to participate in sports and to do so with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of injury and with full consent of my parents/guardian.
4. I, along with my parents, certify that I have read and understand all of the Northeast Nodaway School District activity/athletic policies in this handbook. In order to be eligible for participation, I understand I must comply with all requirements listed.

OFFICE USE ONLY

*Signatures on the Compliance Agreement (from the Student Handbook), indicates agreement to compliance with Athletic Handbook, Classroom Handbook, and Student Handbook guidelines.

Northeast Nodaway Coaching Staff



Athletic Director -- Vance Proffitt

High School Coaches

Head Softball – Mandy Adwell
Assistant Softball – Drew Bruner
Head Girls’ Basketball – Joyce Stiens
Assistant Girls’ Basketball – Linda Mattson
Head Boys’ Basketball – Vance Proffitt
Assistant Boys’ Basketball – James Mattson
Cheerleading Sponsor – Beth Russo
Assistant Cheerleading – Taylor Blevins
Scholar Bowl Team – Barb Bredlow
Head Boys’ & Girls’ Track – Jared Freemyer
Head Boys’ Baseball – Vance Proffitt
Assistant Boys’ Baseball – Cody Green

Junior High Coaches

Head Softball – Jared Freemyer
Assistant Softball – Michael Trautz
Head Girls’ Basketball – Ashley Merrigan
Head Boys’ Basketball – James Mattson
Cheerleading Sponsor – Beth Russo
Assistant Cheerleading – Taylor Blevins
Scholar Bowl Team – Barb Bredlow
Boys’ & Girls’ Track – Ashley Merrigan
Assistant Track – Michael Trautz