

# South Webster Jr./Sr. HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK



*South Webster Jeeps*

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## **Message to Student Athletes and their Parents**

You are receiving this handbook because you have indicated a desire to participate in the interscholastic athletic program offered at South Webster High School. We are very pleased that you have made this decision, and we hope that your experiences will be positive as well as educational. Participation in athletics is both a privilege and an honor. It gives all students the opportunity to learn leadership skills, to gain self-confidence, self-discipline, organization skills, decision-making skills, and also encourages them to set goals. These skills can be learned whether you are the super star or the last person picked for the team. These skills are learned everyday and in every practice by all those who are willing to work toward them. This is why we encourage every student to participate in every activity possible.

Once you have decided to participate, there are many questions that both you and your parents may have regarding the athletic program. In order to assist in making the athletic experience a more positive one, this handbook has been assembled to answer questions about the guidelines and philosophy of the athletic department. We hope that this will be of assistance, and we encourage you to use it as a reference throughout the year. If you or your parents have any additional questions, please feel free to contact any of our head coaches or the athletic director.

## **School Information**

South Webster Jr./Sr. High School  
10529 Main Street P.O. Box 100  
South Webster, Ohio 45682

Main Office – Phone: 740-778-2320  
Fax: 740-778-3227  
Principal: Brett Roberts  
Athletic Director: Gabe Havens

## **High School and Jr. High School Athletic Teams**

### **Fall:**

Boys Cross Country	Jr. High Boys Cross Country
Girls Cross Country	Jr. High Girls Cross Country
Golf	Jr. High Volleyball
Soccer	
Volleyball	

### **Winter:**

Boys Basketball	Jr. High Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball	Jr. High Girls Basketball
Cheerleading	Jr. High Cheerleading

### Spring:

Baseball  
Softball  
Boys Track / Girls Track

Jr. High Boys Track  
Jr. High Girls Track

## Mission

*The mission of the Athletic Department at South Webster Jr./Sr.High School is to provide an appropriate venue for student participation in interscholastic sports.*

South Webster High School believes that interscholastic athletics is an integral part of the school and that a broad-based interscholastic athletics program encourages student participation and involvement in the total life of the school. In addition, interscholastic athletic programs play a positive role by supporting the academic and public service mission of the school.

## Philosophy

The South Webster Athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with Board of Education policies, rules and regulations. While the board takes great pride in winning; it does not condone “winning at any cost!” and discourages any and all pressures which might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so as to justify it as an educational activity. Our athletic program must always represent South Webster Jr./Sr. High School and the community in a fitting and proper manner.

## Academic Participation Policy

Any student participating in an athletic program must meet the following South Webster Jr./Sr. High School Participation Policy requirements in addition to the OHSAA academic requirements.

OHSAA academic requirements mean that a student must pass the equivalent of five credits each grading period. Eligibility will be gained or lost each grading period. In order for students to be eligible for fall sports they must pass five credits during the last grading period of the previous school year. **Semester, summer school, and yearly grades have no effect on eligibility.**

Jr. High Students must pass a minimum of five subjects in which the student receives grades.

**\*Incompletes do not count for passing grades.**

## Transfers

Per the OHSAA, a transfer from one school district to another school district (public or private) without a change in residence of the parents or legal guardian will likely make the student ineligible for athletic participation for one year. Before any student athlete transfers to another school he or she should consult with the athletic director or the principal.

## **Attendance Regulations**

Any student participating in an athletic program must be in school a minimum of four class periods to participate in practice or games unless otherwise given permission by the administration.

## **Cancellation of Contests/Practices Due to Weather**

If Bloom Vernon Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the superintendent, principal and athletic director will make a decision on the status of games as soon as possible. Once a decision has been made the head coach of each team will contact team members concerning the status of contests and practices.

## **Conflicts with Other Activities**

An individual who attempts to participate in many extra-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences and will attempt to schedule events so as to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about participating in too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. When conflicts do arise the sponsors will get together and work out a solution. If a solution cannot be found, the principal will make a decision.

1. Students may participate in only one (1) sport per season
2. Any student who quits one sport is ineligible for participation in all other sports during that same regular season.
3. A student who is “cut” from one sport before actual competition has begun may try out for another team only with the consent and approval of both coaches involved and the Athletic Director.
4. Every attempt will be made by an “out of season” coach to avoid scheduling conditioning, open gyms, weight lifting, etc., during the same time as “in season” contests and/or practices.
5. Students are not permitted to be on school grounds before or after the time for their activity to begin or end, without direct supervision of their coach or sponsor.
6. Students are not excused from detentions or Saturday school because of activity practices or contests without prior approval from Principal or Assistant Principal

## **Athletic Code of Conduct**

Students who accept the privilege of participation in interscholastic athletics must accept the responsibility of good sportsmanship and citizenship. A denial of participation from any athletic activity may be used for a student who does not accept this responsibility.

All athletes are subject to the rules and regulations set forth by the Bloom-Vernon Board of Education and the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) concerning the conduct of South Webster High School student athletes. The Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, or Coach may deny participation to an individual for violation of these rules and regulations.

Below is a list of offenses and penalties, which will be enforced for all athletic teams within the athletic program:

1. An athlete shall not possess, use, transmit, sell, offer to sell, conceal, consume, share, transfer, handle, smoke, deliver, build altering chemicals, look-alike drugs, alcohol, narcotics, marijuana, stimulants, amphetamines, barbiturates, tranquilizers, intoxicants, solvents, inhalants, or any mood altering chemical, drug or abuse of prescription drug and counterfeit substance tobacco or tobacco product, or any objects designed to inject, conceal, smoke, or enhance the effects of an item previously listed or any object deemed drug related such as rolling papers, etc.
  - A. **First Offense** – immediate denial of participation from the team and forfeiture of all rights as a team member. This shall be for the remainder of the current season in which the athlete is involved. This penalty may be reduced to suspension from no less than, but not limited to, 25% of the scheduled regular season contests if the athlete agrees to complete a certified and accepted counseling program, and abides by any and all requirements and recommendations of that counseling agency. *An unexcused absence from a session will immediately reactivate the original denial of participation.* All expenses of the counseling program will be the responsibility of the athlete. Example: an athlete caught with illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco during basketball season will be suspended for the remainder of that season. If he/she agrees to complete a program of counseling from an approved agency the suspension would be reduced to not less than 25% of the regular season. The athlete must attend practice. He/she must travel, not in uniform, with the team at the discretion of the coach. The athlete must also agree to have revoked any leadership positions such as, but not limited to, team captain and will not hold any leadership positions on athletic teams for the remainder of the school year.
  - B. **Second Offense**- immediate denial of participation from all sports for one (1) full calendar year.
  - C. **Third Offense**- The student-athlete found in a third violation shall be denied participation for the remainder of his/her athletic career. After one (1) full calendar year from determination of guilt an appeal can be made to the athletic counsel contingent upon substantiated rehabilitation.
2. All offenses are cumulative throughout the student's entire high school career. Example: a student's first offense could be in the freshman year – the next offense will be considered the second offense regardless of school year.

3. Self-Referral – if an athlete voluntarily admits to use or abuse of any forbidden substance prior to an investigation and/or questioning of a suspected situation, the athlete shall not be subject to any penalty if the athlete agrees to undergo professional assessment/evaluation and /or treatment by a professional counselor from an approved agency and abide by all requirements and recommendations of that agency. This shall be in lieu of first offense penalties and the next infraction shall be treated as a second (2<sup>nd</sup>) offense, Self-Referral may be used only once in an athlete’s career.
4. Any athlete who is convicted of a felony while his/her sport is in season will result in denial of participation from the team immediately and forfeit all rights as a team member.
5. Improper conduct by a student-athlete will not be tolerated. Any action by a student-athlete that results in a negative reflection upon South Webster Jr./Sr. High School, the team or community may lead to a denial of participation in athletics. The Principal, Athletic Director, and head coach will review these instances.

## **Athletic Code Due Process**

A due process hearing can be granted to any athlete who has been denied participation, suspended, or dismissed. If the athlete and his/her parents disagree with the judgment of the coach and administration an appeal may be made. The parent must write a letter to the Athletic Director explaining their objection to the decision within five (5) days of the decision. If the parents are still dissatisfied with the decision, the parents have the right to appeal to the Superintendent.

## **Emergency Medical Authorization, and Physical Forms**

All athletes must have a completed emergency medical authorization form and a completed physical form on file **prior** to the first day of tryouts or practice. All forms should be turned in to the head coach, and no athlete will be permitted to participate without these forms being completed. In the event of an emergency, coaches will have a copy of the emergency medical form in their possession for use at all practices and contests. Blank forms can be picked up in the main office.

## **Equipment**

Each athlete will be issued equipment that is the property of the school. Athletes are responsible for this equipment and are expected to maintain it. Please follow the “care of product labels” when laundering cloth goods. All equipment is to be returned at the end of each season. Athletes who fail to return equipment will have holds placed on their records until all equipment has been returned or paid for.

## **Facility Usage**

School facilities are extremely limited; therefore all scheduling for use of these athletic facilities must be coordinated through the principal or athletic director. Boosters clubs are permitted to use areas of the building for meetings and other activities, but the events must be scheduled through the office in advance.

**No athlete is to use any indoor facility (gym, weight room, etc.) without a staff member being present. Outside fields, open to the public, may be used provided a school activity is not going on.**

## **Insurance**

Bloom-Vernon Local School District provides secondary accidental insurance and can pay claims up to \$5000 per incident. Injuries should be reported to the administration immediately. All claims must go through the high school office.

## **Lettering Guidelines/Awards**

The award system of South Webster Jr./Sr. High School is as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> year Award:** Letter, Pin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Award:** Medallion
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Award:** Plaque
- 4<sup>th</sup> Year Award:** Trophy

Medallions, plaques and pins will be awarded for each sport that a student athlete participates in. Only one chenille letter will be awarded per athlete. The criteria for earning special awards vary from sport to sport because of the different characteristics of each program. Each head coach will be permitted to determine the criteria necessary for earning special awards.

## **NCAA Clearinghouse / Athletic Scholarships**

The clearinghouse is an arm of the NCAA. It was established to certify student athletes for Division I and Division II institutions. In order to be eligible to compete for athletic scholarships at these levels the athlete must be registered and must send either an ACT and/or SAT score to the clearinghouse. Information concerning this can be obtained in the high school guidance office. There is a cost to register and it cannot be done until the summer between your junior and senior year. The best thing underclassmen can do to become eligible for an athletic scholarship is to maintain a high grade point average in the core courses during their first three years of high school.



## **Playing Time**

There is no guarantee on any amount of playing time. As athletes move through the program there could be very limited playing time given. The coaches determine who plays and how long, based on ability, practice, rules, and desire. When there is a question about playing time the **athlete** should speak with the coach. It is important to reinforce with your athlete that his/her contribution to the team is just as important regardless of the amount of his or her playing time.

## **Preseason Meetings**

Each coach will organize a preseason meeting with players and parents. In the meeting the coach will pass out or inform parents of the Athletic Handbook. The coach will review items in this handbook along with specific team rules, expectations, sportsmanship, and any other items pertaining to his or her sport. The Handbook can be found on the schools website.

The OHSAA also requires that all parents of athletes attend a pre-season meeting conducted by the principal and athletic director. The meeting will help answer concerns about eligibility and sportsmanship.

## **OHSAA Website**

[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)

## **OHSAA Student Athlete Eligibility Guide**

<http://www.ohsaa.org/eligibility/EligibilityGuide.pdf>

## **OHSAA Concussion Protocol**

<http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/Concussions/ConcussionProtocol0111.pdf>

## **Risk of Participation**

You are hereby advised, cautioned and warned by administrative and coaching personnel of the Bloom Vernon Local School District that You are subjecting yourself 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 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.

