

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Guidelines

The Big Horn County School District #2 Board of Trustees believes that individual students benefit and grow through their experiences of participating in school activities. It is the Board's policy to provide students the opportunity to participate in a variety of school activities commensurate with the grade level of the students involved.

The purpose of these activities is both educational and recreational. The program should encourage participation by as many boys and girls as possible and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the first consideration. This should be done with the least possible interference with the educational program or any other obligations in the school community.

It is recognized that a well-organized and well conducted activities program is a potent factor in the morale of a school system and an important phase of good community-school relations. Good sportsmanship and proper conduct reflecting a positive image of the District from all participants, coaches and spectators is paramount and required in all school activities and events.

Participation in interscholastic athletics is limited to students in grades 7-12 with the exception being students in grade 6 may participate in cross country, swimming, wrestling and track. [Amended 5/11/2009]

The activities program is an integral part of the school curriculum and is under the authority of the principal.

Those persons having direct responsibility for the conduct of school activities, including those who are not regular employees of the school district, are required to conform to all regulations as promulgated by the school district.

The Lovell High School is a member of the Wyoming High School Activities Association (WHSAA) and will adhere to the rules and regulations of that body. The eligibility of students to participate in the activities program will meet and/or exceed WHSAA regulations.

No student may start practice for any athletic team until he/she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor and until written consent has been obtained from the parent. Additionally, all students participating in interscholastic athletics must purchase insurance available through the school or the parent or guardian must sign a waiver to the effect that such coverage is not necessary. All students and parents must also sign the District's CODE: JICH-BH2- EXTRA- CURRICULAR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING POLICY FORM.

Expenditures for activities programs are incorporated as a part of the general school budget. Coaches of each activity will submit their budgetary needs to the athletic director for approval and inclusion in the general budget. No expenditures for activity purposes may be made in excess of those listed in the budget without approval of the superintendent.

District participation in any and all activities shall be subject to approval by the Board. This shall include approval of membership in any league and association or conference.

The student handbook and coach's handbook will be considered a part of this policy.

PHILOSOPHY OF ACTIVITIES

The primary purpose of the extracurricular programs is to meet those school-related interests and needs that are not provided for by the curricular program of the school. The emphasis in all co and extracurricular programs at Lovell High School and Lovell Middle School shall be on providing opportunities for all students to participate at a level that is commensurate with their ability. The major objective of the program is to provide wholesome opportunities for students to develop good habits and appropriate attitudes for living in a democratic society.

Activity Programs

The interscholastic athletic program shall consist of cross-county, football, volleyball, basketball, swimming and diving, in-door track and field, wrestling and track.

The non- interscholastic activities shall consist of student council, cheerleading, National Honor Society, dance/drill team, speech, drama, FFA, FCCLA, SKILLSUSA, WAC, and all other voluntary school sponsored clubs and activities.

Additional activities may be authorized by the Board upon administrative recommendation.

ACTIVITY CODE

Participation in activity programs at Lovell is a privilege and not a right. Participation in activity programs is an integral part of the total school educational program. The privilege of participation in such activities shall be conditional upon the compliance with the following activity code.

Prior to the beginning of an activity season, each head coach or sponsor shall submit a set of team rules and a discipline plan to the activities director for approval. The team rules and discipline plan shall address participant's behavior, lettering procedures and any other issues as directed by the activities director.

Infractions

A participant in an activity program referred to above is defined as any student grades K - 12 who participates in any sanctioned activity specifically including those listed above as well as those that may hereafter be Board authorized upon administrative recommendation. This code shall be enforced throughout the students' secondary school years. Each offense committed during any year while the student is in grades 6- 8 and 9 - 12 shall be accumulative during the school calendar year. Middle school infractions do not carry over to high school. A student is considered a 9th grader during the summer following promotion from the 8th grade. The participant will be subject to disciplinary action if he or she commits any of the following violations at any time during a calendar year:

In addition to the infractions addressed by district policy relating to tobacco, drugs and alcohol, the coaches and/or activities sponsors shall have authority to administer other disciplinary measures and/or consequences at any time they determine that the student has failed to conduct themselves in a manner such as to be a credit to their parents or guardians, the school and their community. Such disciplinary measures shall be left to the discretion of the coach or sponsor. In addition all Rules and Regulations from the WHSAA must be followed regarding student and coaches/ sponsors behaviors, infractions, and consequences. The principal, upon the recommendation from the activities director, will have the responsibility and authority for the interpretation and implementation of all extra and co-curricular district policies and regulations.

ELIGIBILITY RULES

To represent Lovell High School or Middle School in any activity the pupil must be eligible under the following rules.

The student shall be a regularly enrolled school pupil in the appropriate grade setting.

The student must carry a regular program of at least (7 solids) and must pass all courses.

The student must have been enrolled and in attendance not later than the beginning of the eleventh school day of the semester, otherwise he/she must be in school two weeks before being eligible to participate.

The student shall have a passing grade for the semester in all classes to be determined on the basis of two (2) week failure reports.

A student must have passed all of the necessary units of work the previous semester to allow them to practice or participate in an activity.

Deficiencies, including incompletes, conditions and failures from a previous semester may be made up during the following semester or summer. Students are ineligible until deficiencies are made up and approved by the principal.

No student shall participate under an assumed name.

The principal or designee shall accompany participants to all activities. No unauthorized people will be transported to or from school activities.

No school or agency of the school may give an award, or merchandise in excess of \$250.00 per year; golfers may be awarded up to \$750.00. In case an outside agency wished to present an additional award, it is recommended that such procedure be cleared through the Executive Secretary of the Wyoming Activities Association. In no case may an award be given where advertising or other commercial interests are involved.

There shall be no interscholastic activities held on Sunday.

No school or school group may sponsor a high school rodeo. High school pupils may not enter any rodeo as a member representing the high school or a high school group. A pupil may enter as an individual without affecting his/her amateur standing.

Wednesday night has been designated as activity free night. No activities or practices shall be held after 7 p.m.

If a student is ineligible he/she may not participate in any after school or weekend extracurricular activities or any activity that requires them be absent from class. If an activity takes place during regular school hours in which all students are participating and no class time will be missed, the ineligible student will be allowed to participate or perform with the team or group. (i.e. pep assembly, etc.)

Home School Student's Eligibility:

Home schooled students require adherence to BGH#2 policies for substance abuse and eligibility. The home schooled student in activities must complete all of the required activity participation requirements for substance abuse and must adhere to random substance abuse sampling or they will not be allowed to participate in any BGH#2 activities. When randomly selected for drug testing, home schooled students must come to the school within an hour of notification. If they refuse to come to the school within the specified time, or refuse to participate in the testing, the District Drug Policy will be enforced.

The Home schooled student's parents must submit to the respective school office documentation verifying their child's grades by the progress reporting deadline. If the student's documentation of their progress is not submitted in order to demonstrate they are eligible the student will be ineligible.

Semester Eligibility:

Students must pass all of their classes in order to be eligible. Students who have an "F" in any class at the end of any semester are ineligible the following semester until they receive a passing grade for the semester of the same class or a comparable class approved by the principal. Upon successful completion and principal approval they will become eligible.

Eligibility Check:

- The secretary will pull grades from PowerSchool every other Thursday at 8:00 a.m. starting with the third Thursday of the first semester.
- A letter will be mailed home to parents notifying them if their student has a failing grade. This serves as a warning that the student will become ineligible if they do not raise their grade by the following Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
- If the student does not raise their grade to passing, they will be ineligible for a week, serving from Thursday a.m., until the following Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.
- At the next scheduled eligibility check, if the student still has an "F" they will continue being ineligible until the following Wednesday. Thus serving two weeks in a row.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Big Horn County School District #2 expects that coaches, athletes, parents and spectators will conduct themselves within the guidelines of good sportsmanship. Many sports have rules governing coach/athlete/spectator misconduct. The penalties range from removal of the offender(s) to forfeiture of the game. Good conduct from everyone involved in events will help to provide a positive atmosphere and make the experience an enjoyable one for all. In general, positive support of your team is acceptable, and the negative behavior directed toward either team, their fans, officials, or facilities is unacceptable.

SPORTSMANSHIP DEFINITION: A person who can take a loss or defeat without complaint or victory without gloating and who treats his/her opponents with fairness, courtesy and respect. The conduct of coaches, players and cheerleaders generally sets the tone for Lovell school contests. They will be expected to maintain the highest level of decorum at all Lovell school contests.

Players are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which shall bring credit to themselves, their school, community, coaches and families. They shall refrain from all conduct which tends to degrade, bait, intimidate or otherwise discredit their opponent, officials, or inter-scholastic athletes.

Coaches are expected to maintain decorum consistent with the educational values of interscholastic athletics. By personal example, coaches are expected to demonstrate their awareness of these values by showing restraint and composure in the emotional climate of an athletic contest and to insist that players in their charge conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

Responsible school personnel are expected to instruct and supervise the conduct of student spirit leaders, rooting sections, bands and other student groups in order to achieve an atmosphere consistent with good sportsmanship. School administrators are expected to control or cause to be controlled spectators in such a manner that all athletic contests are conducted in an atmosphere which is consistent with the educational values of interscholastic athletics.

Fans and spectators are expected to know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship. Respect, cooperate and respond enthusiastically to our cheerleaders. Censure fellow spectators who display negative behavior. Respect the property of the school and authority of school officials. Show respect for an injured athlete when he/she is removed from the contest. Do not applaud errors by opponents or penalties inflicted upon them. Do not heckle, jeer or distract members of the opposing team. Never criticize the athletes or coaches for the loss of a contest. Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach; refrain from being a second guesser. Avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior which are contrary to sportsmanship. Applaud at the end of the contest for the performance of all participants.

The following behavior is unacceptable at all Lovell School contests:

- Berating your opponent's school or mascot
- Berating opposing player
- Obscene cheers or gestures
- Negative signs
- Artificial noise makers (according to WHSAA rules)
- Complaining about officials calls (either verbally or by gesture)

Consequences for Spectators:

1st Offense: WHSAA written citation

2nd Offense: Removal from the activity for the remainder of the day.

2nd Offense and another contest: second citation; immediate meeting with the Athletic Director and/or Principal and possibility of losing privilege of attending future activities. Citations and verbal warnings will apply to the current school calendar year.

