

# Western Beaver County School District



## Parent-Student-Coach Athletic Handbook

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Dear Parent and Student Athlete:

The purpose of this letter is to welcome your son/daughter into the Western Beaver Athletic Program and to provide the necessary information to help him/her succeed at their chosen endeavor. It is our goal to provide your son/daughter with an enjoyable athletic experience that is rewarding both on and off the playing field.

Being a member of a Western Beaver athletic team is a fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight; it takes hard work from many people over many years to develop. As a member of an interscholastic squad for Western Beaver Middle School or High School, you have inherited a wonderful tradition which you are challenged to uphold.

We hope that you will always give Western Beaver Athletics 100% to uphold this high standard we have created. When you wear purple and gold, we assume that you not only understand our tradition, but are willing to accept the responsibilities that go along with it. These responsibilities include:

- 1.) **Responsibility to Yourself:** The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to derive the greatest benefit from your high school experiences. Your academic studies, participation in school activities as well as participation in sports, prepare you for your life as an adult.
- 2.) **Responsibility to the Western Beaver School District:** Western Beaver cannot maintain its position as having an outstanding school unless each and every student and parent represents themselves with honor and dignity. By competing in athletics, you have the power to represent your school in a positive manner by demonstrating good sportsmanship while maintaining a strong desire to win.
- 3.) **Responsibility to Others:** Younger students in Western Beaver are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Do not do anything to lead them astray or to let them down. Whether you realize it or not, you are one of the most influential people on the youth of our community.

The following pages comprise our athletic handbook for you to familiarize yourself with the district's policies and procedures. Many topics are included and may change on an annual basis. If you have a specific question regarding athletic scholarships, NCAA guidelines, eligibility, physical examinations, attendance, lettering, and other guidelines that have been set forth by the Western Beaver School District, please do not hesitate to contact me at (412) 974-1344

Good luck and GO GOLDEN BEAVERS!

Sincerely,

Owen Clendaniel, Athletic Director

## ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

The interscholastic sports program consists of (13) varsity teams, (6) junior varsity teams, (7) junior high teams. All of these groups compete in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). The local district of the PIAA that our school competes in District 7, commonly known as the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League or (WPIAL). Our district is also a part of the Midwestern Athletic Conference (MAC) and the Southwest Conference for Middle School sports scheduling.

### SPORTS AT WESTERN BEAVER

**Fall:**

Football*	Varsity	Junior Varsity	Junior High
Cheerleading	Varsity (9-12)		Junior High (7-8)
Golf*	Varsity		
Girls' Volleyball	Varsity	Junior Varsity	
Girls' Basketball			Junior High (7-8)
Cross Country*	Varsity		

**Winter:**

Girls' Basketball*	Varsity	Junior Varsity	
Boys' Basketball	Varsity	Junior Varsity	7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , & 9 <sup>th</sup> Teams
Cheerleading	Varsity		Junior High
Wrestling*	Varsity		Junior High

**Spring:**

Girls' Volleyball			Junior High (7-8)
Boys' Baseball	Varsity	Junior Varsity	
Girls' Softball*	Varsity	Junior Varsity	
Girls' Track	Varsity		
Boys' Track*	Varsity		

*\*Denotes a Cooperative Agreement*

Students may also compete independently in sports that are not offered

Student should see the athletic director if they desire to compete in a sport that is not listed

## Western Beaver Athletic Department Philosophy

The athletic program will conform to all policies of the school district. This handbook will not override Board approved policies. If there is any conflict between a Board policy and any policy procedure or other content of this Handbook, Board policy shall prevail.

The Western Beaver School District believes that a dynamic program of student athletics is vital to the educational development of the student. The WB Athletic Program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society.

Athletics plays an important part in the life of Western Beaver High/Middle School students. Young people learn a great deal from their participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition, and how to win and lose gracefully are an integral part of each team in our athletic program. Athletics play an important part, too, in helping the individual student develop a healthy self-concept as well as a healthy body. Athletic competitions add to our school spirit and helps all students (spectators as well as participants) develop pride in their school.

The major objective of the athletic program is to provide wholesome opportunities for students to develop positive habits and attitudes of social and group living. Leadership should be of the highest quality so as to exemplify to the participants the desired type of behavior to be developed from the athletic program. Measurement of leadership success should not be in terms of the victory and defeat record, but rather in the personal development factors that are an outgrowth of the major objectives of the athletic program.

We believe that the opportunity for participation in a wide variety of student-selected activities is a vital part of the student's educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege and not a right, and therefore can be taken away from a student if that student does not comply with the policies and procedures and Codes of Conduct of the School District that carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the activity, to the student body, to the community, and to the students themselves. These experiences contribute to the development of learning skills and emotional patterns that enable the student to make maximum use of his or her education.

The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies. While the Board of Education 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 experience.

A comprehensive and balanced athletic program is an essential complement to the basic program of instruction. The athletic program should provide opportunities for students to further develop interests and talents in sports. Participation in athletics should provide many students with a lifetime basis for personal values for work and leisure activities.

Every effort should be made to support the activities program with facilities, equipment, and with the most qualified staff available. Coaches, directors, and sponsors should teach the specific skills necessary for improvement in athletics and provide guidance in the development of self-realization, good sportsmanship, cooperation, leadership, ethical behavior, and an appreciation for the importance of practice.

Jr. High athletics are to focus on participation so that students can discover their abilities, build their confidence and improve their performance in the classroom. It is important for students to get involved with school activities, to meet new people and to develop interests. Practices and games are to develop skills and learn about the game and rules. In turn this preparation will prepare them to participate at the next level.

The Junior Varsity levels serve as a transition from a developmental philosophy to a more serious philosophy. The focus of this level is to practice learned skills and prepare to play at the next level. Athletes are exposed to the traits it takes to be successful. Such traits include hard work, dedication, time management, desire, and sacrifice

The Varsity level is the culmination of the athletic experience and is the highest level of competition in high school athletics. Emphasis at this level is on the use of the fundamentals of the sport, dedication, desire, hard work, and sacrifice. Playing time is at the coach's discretion and should be geared toward winning the competition while

upholding both school and team rules. Success is not necessarily indicated by a win or loss, but measured by the quality of the effort, performance, and achievement of goals.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Athletic Mission:** To challenge all student athletes to achieve success, a sense of self-esteem, and teamwork through participation in competitive athletics. It is through participation in competitive athletics that students will develop the necessary skills to become productive members of society.

Western Beaver has a history of success in high school athletics. Not only are the administration, staff, and community committed to building upon that history, but it is also committed to maintaining a high level of integrity throughout its athletic program. Students are encouraged to develop responsibility and commitment, an understanding of the importance of teamwork, and respect for self and others.

Young people learn a great deal from their participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition, and how to win and lose gracefully are an integral part of each team in our athletic program. Athletics play an important role in helping the individual student develop a healthy self-concept as well as a healthy body.

In keeping with our philosophy to fully develop our student athletes, and in line with keeping our athletic teams as competitive as possible, student athletes are strongly encouraged to participate in a variety of sports for Western Beaver if they are capable of doing so.

A student's physical and mental health is just one of many concerns that the administration, coaches, and teachers have for your child's total well being. Although there is no set policy against a student participating in more than one sport during any one season, and occasionally it works for the student-athlete, it is recommended that students should play only ONE sport during the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons. This is largely due to the grueling practice and academic workload for high school students. Students must remember that they are students first and athletes second. Trying to do too much will affect a student's health and also his/her academic and athletic performance.

### **SCHEDULING**

All schedules will be posted on the athletic web site under "Athletics"

## CODE OF ETHICS

According to the PIAA Constitution and By-Laws, the following is the **Athletic Courtesy By-Law** that every school, student athlete, coach, official, athletic director, principal, and fan must abide by to ensure a strong Code of Ethics is maintained.

*Athletics should foster clean sports. It is the privilege and duty of every person connected with athletics to exemplify these principles in that person's own actions and earnestly advocate them before others.*

1. *The rules of the game are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no honorable person would break. The stealing of advantage on sport is theft.*
2. *No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the game is understood to show superiority.*
3. *Unsportsmanlike or unfair means are not to be used, even when they are used by opponents.*
4. *Visiting teams are to be honored guests of the home team and should be treated as such.*
5. *No action is to be taken which would seem unsportsmanlike or dishonorable if known to one's opponent or the public.*
6. *Remember that the student spectator represents his school the same as does the athlete at all home and away contests.*
7. *Any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship should be requested not to attend future contests.*
8. *Decisions of Contest officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair.*
9. *Contest officials and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in intention. In contests when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner, and when contest officials are manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationships with them should be avoided.*
10. *Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.*
11. *The practice of "booing" is regarded as discourteous and unsportsmanlike.*

## Conflict Resolution Process

Western Beaver strives to provide an opportunity for student athletes to learn through active participation in sports. An athlete's success within the athletic program is often determined by the level in which he/she is participating. Fundamental growth, progression from one year to the next, increased physical fitness, personal development, as well as winning can all be successes of the individual athlete. With that in mind, it is the intent of the athletic program to involve as many students as possible. Being a member of the team does not guarantee playing time, however all members will be given a fair and equal chance to earn their positions on each team.

### **Concern/Complaint Process:**

If a student or parent has a concern regarding issues within athletic teams, they must follow the chain of command set forth below:

- 1 – Student should address questions to coaching staff.
- 2 – Parent and student should request a meeting with the coach or coaching staff.
- 3 – Parent, student, and coach will meet with the Athletic Director.
- 4 – Parent, student, coach and Athletic Director will meet with the principal.
- 5 – Unresolved issues will be referred to the district Superintendent/Board of Education

This chain of command must be followed. The Athletic Director will ask you if you have spoken to the coaching staff. The principal will ask you if you have spoken to the Coaching Staff/Athletic Director. The Superintendent will ask you if you have spoken to the coaching staff, Athletic Director, and Principal. Please do not bypass any person within this chain of command.

The Western Beaver Athletic Department believes that coaches are in the best position to determine each athlete's position on the team. Discussions involving playing time and positions will not be debated, however the coaches should provide positive constructive actions that may increase a student's role and playing time on a team.

## REDUCTION IN NUMBERS (CUTTING) POLICY

In accordance with our beliefs at Western Beaver, it is our goal to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic program; therefore, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as possible while maintaining the integrity of their sport. Time, space, facilities, equipment, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective team size for any particular sport. Coaches are encouraged to strive to maximize the opportunities for our students without sacrificing the quality of the program.

1. Choosing the members of athletic teams is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those teams.
2. Cheerleading squads will be chosen in the spring by an impartial panel not associated with the school.
3. Non-varsity coaches shall take into consideration the policies established by the head coach in that particular program when selecting final team rosters.

4. Prior to team selection, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:
  - a. Extent of try-out period
  - b. Criteria used to evaluate and select the team
  - c. Number or range of numbers to be selected
  - d. Practice commitment if they make the team
  - e. Game commitments

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

We at Western Beaver are deeply concerned with good sportsmanship. No matter what contest we are engaged in, we want to always exhibit the best possible sportsmanship. In playing the game, we should:

1. Regard the rules of the games as mutual agreements that no person would break.
2. Seek no advantage over others except those in which the game is understood to show superiority.
3. Never use unsportsmanlike or unfair means.
4. Treat visiting teams as honored guests of the home team.
5. Request any spectator who continually shows poor sportsmanship not to attend future contests.
6. Abide by the decisions of officials, even when they seem unfair; let coaches handle these situations
7. Regard the practice of booing as discourteous and unsportsmanlike.
8. Remember that a student-spectator represents the school in the same way an athlete does.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **Academics**

Student-athletes and participants in extracurricular activities must pursue a curriculum defined and approved by the principal as a full-time curriculum. Students must have passed four (4) full-credit subjects during the previous grading period. Eligibility for the first grading period in the fall is based upon final grades from the preceding school year. In essence, if a student failed three or more major subjects the preceding grade period, that student will lose the privilege of participating in interscholastic athletics per Western Beaver policy.

The principal and athletic director provides a roster of all student-athletes to all classroom teachers. Each week teachers will refer to the athletic director, those student-athletes who have a cumulative failing grade for the current grading period in their course. This information is then given to the athletic director who checks the grades of all students who are failing any courses. If the student-athlete is not passing four full-credit subjects, that student-athlete will be rendered ineligible on a week-to-week basis until said student has raised his/her grades.

If a student is rendered ineligible for any reason, the principal or athletic director will advise the head coach and the participating student of the reason for ineligibility. The head coach will, in turn, advise the student's parent/guardian concerning the performance of the student and possible remedies. Students who are ineligible on a week-to-week basis will NOT be permitted to

practice, play, or participate in any way in that week's activities. The extra time allotted is to be utilized by the student to improve his/her work or to make up any missing tests and/or assignments. Students may be permitted to observe practices so as not to miss valuable lessons; the individual coach will decide this.

### **Attendance**

Students participating in any athletic event or extracurricular activity, including practice, must be in attendance the day on which the activity takes place. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Any student who is tardy must have special clearance through the principal's office in order to be eligible to partake in any activity that day. The student should discuss the reason for tardiness with the head coach. The head coach will, in turn, discuss the reason with the Athletic Director or principal to determine whether or not the student will be able to participate in the event that day. Students who are legally tardy due to a doctor or dental appointment, funeral, etc., must produce a legal excuse and also must be cleared through the principal's office. At the beginning of each season, the athletic director and/or principal will address these issues with the athletes and their coaches.

A student who violates the attendance policy will lose eligibility in the interscholastic sports program until such a time when said student has attended sixty days of school after the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day of absence. **There are very few exceptions to this rule.** (This is a WPIAL-PIAA rule)

### **Discipline**

If a student is suspended (TOC or OSS) they are ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular event during that suspension. Student-athletes may be subject to discipline from coaches as well.

### **Age**

There is an age limit in interscholastic sports competitions. Students may not have reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by June 30 immediately preceding the school year. (16<sup>th</sup> birthday for Junior High sports)

### **Physical Examination**

Every student must have a physician's certificate and parental certificate signed by a licensed physician and a parent/guardian before he/she is permitted to practice or compete in any interscholastic sport or in cheerleading. **No student may practice or compete until the physical exam has been given.** The school physician at no cost gives physical examinations for sports to the student, if given at the school on the days provided. However, the proper forms must be completed and returned to the nurse by the announced deadline for students to receive this privilege.

### **Amateur Status**

Student-athletes must be amateurs in order to participate in any P.I.A.A. sponsored contest. Athletes may not have received any form of prize money or merchandise or play on teams that do not receive such compensation.

### **Athletic Training**

Western Beaver has on its staff a full-time licensed trainer who works in cooperation with our school nurse to provide treatments of routine athletic problems. The trainer will be available daily

from approximately 2:00 p.m. until the completion of all athletic programs scheduled for the day. The trainer will address individual groups of athletes at the beginning of each season to inform all student-athletes of his/her services.

### **Awards**

A student will receive an athletic award at the end of a sport season if he/she has fulfilled the requirements set forth by the coach of that sport in which he/she is participating.

Each sport has its own guidelines for quarters/periods specifically needed to earn a letter in the sport. Each coach/sport will/may have his/her own guidelines or policies specific to the sport.

### **Equipment**

Students participating in interscholastic activities are responsible for returning school equipment at the completion of the season or upon demand by a school official. If the equipment is lost or otherwise unavailable, students will be placed on the debt list until reimbursement is made for equipment as determined by the athletic director.

### **College Eligibility**

Eligibility requirements for N.C.A.A. Division I and II Institutions “Prop 48” Legislation:

- One must attain a grade point average of 2.00 (based on a 4.00 scale) in a successfully completed core curriculum of at least 14 Academic Courses (Grades 9-12).
- One must achieve a 700-combined score on the SAT verbal and math sections or an 18 composite score on the ACT.

See the Guidance Counselor or [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) for further information.

### **Transfer Students**

You are treated as having transferred whenever you change schools, even if you are out of school for a period of time before entering the new school. There have been several changes by the P.I.A.A. regarding transfer rules and eligibility. Contact the athletic director if you are a transfer student or you have any questions concerning your eligibility.

## **MEDICAL ISSUES**

Western Beaver County School District does not provide insurance coverage, nor will it assume or pay medical or hospital expenses for injuries incurred as a result of participation in school-sponsored athletics, practice or preparation, or in transportation to/from such events.

The school district will, however, provide catastrophic insurance coverage that would take effect after the exhaustion of benefits from hospitalization insurance and major medical coverage. The catastrophic insurance coverage has a \$3,500 deductible feature.

Student Accident Insurance is also available to purchase through Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company. Please note: Varsity Football is NOT covered under this insurance. Any student planning to participate in athletics must be covered by an insurance program. Please consult the nurse or main office for details.

## **Injury Procedure**

The athletic trainer will be responsible for the management and treatment of all athletic injuries. All injuries must be reported to the athletic trainer as soon as possible.

Any athlete who is taken to a physician as recommended by the athletic trainer or by the parent as a result of a possible injury, must provide a written medical release to the athletic trainer in order to return to participation in his/her sport.

The coach must notify the parents and/or guardians of any serious injuries. If necessary, the athlete will be taken to the hospital for necessary care.

The athletic trainer, not a coach, will determine whether an injured player is capable of practicing and/or playing.

If there is a difference of opinion between the athletic trainer, coach, athletic trainer, parent in the athletes' ability to practice or play, the family is required to provide a written medical release to override the decision of the certified athletic trainer

### **Emergency Telephone Numbers:**

Police/Ambulance Emergency..... 911  
Tyler Heydorn (Trainer).....(412) 610-0183  
Owen Clendaniel, Athletic Director..... (717) 8846444  
Medic Rescue Ambulance Service.....>.....(724) 728-3620

## **STUDENT-ATHLETE ETHICS**

1. The student-athlete should serve as an example of good sportsmanship and well roundedness that should be promoted through athletics.
2. There should be accord among student-athletes regardless of what sport/sports you are playing.
3. The coaches, not student-athlete, will handle disagreements with officials.
4. Profanity by student-athletes will not be tolerated. It will in no way improve your performance.
5. Attire of student athletes:
  - a. Student-athletes should dress appropriately for all contests. The impressions you make reflect upon you, your team, and the school. Team members should all wear the same attire, i.e. uniform.
  - b. Suitable practice attire will, of course, depend upon the nature of the sport, weather conditions, etc.
  - c. Wearing spiked or cleated shoes in school buildings is prohibited. This is a matter of maintenance and safety.
  - d. Coaches will take responsibility for communicating the standards and expectations for dress to his/her team and enforcing them.

6. Team-Rivalry: A student-athlete should encourage pride within the team, but this should never be developed by belittling another team or sport. Every team should support every other team in the school.

## **BUS TRIP POLICY – RULES**

- All students have assigned seats, and the sponsor will keep a written record.
- Students should report damage done to their seat before leaving the bus. Students will be responsible for any damage that is found by the bus company.
- Students are to remain in their assigned seats for the duration of the trip.
- Male and female students should be kept in separate areas of the bus. The only exception to this rule is on extremely long trips where there are numerous chaperones that can sit among the students in appropriate places.
- Sponsors will sit in seats that allow them to make sure male and female students are separated.
- Students participating in a school-sponsored event must notify the sponsor if they are going home with their parents. The parent must provide this information in writing. The sponsor will keep a written record.
- Permission to use cell phones, CD players, etc, by the students should be determined by the sponsor prior to bus departure.
- All school rules apply on the bus (drugs, alcohol, tobacco, conduct, etc.)

## **TRAINING RULES & PERSONAL CONDUCT OF TEAM MEMBERS**

Physical, academic and team training rank high in our aims and objectives in athletics. Generally, it is the individual coach's job to establish training rules for his/her team. There are, however, certain basic factors that should be constant for all teams and participating members in the athletic program. Violation of these rules or conditions will result in penalties in accordance with the offense.

1. The Coach is responsible for disciplining inappropriate athlete behavior.
  - a. Proper conduct on buses, locker rooms, practice fields, etc., is essential. Athletes who act inappropriately will be disciplined by the coach and possibly in-school as well.
  - b. The student-athlete represents the coach, the school and their individual families.
2. Drug and alcohol abuse: Drug and alcohol abuse are direct violations of the School District rules. Any violations of this nature may result in suspension from athletics for the remainder of the season and possibly longer. In addition, further discipline in school may be appropriate. The head coach, in cooperation with the School Administration will decide the appropriate discipline.
3. The Western Beaver County School District prohibits the use of anabolic steroids or any other performance-enhancing drug by anyone involved in school-related athletics, except for a valid medical purpose as prescribed by a physician. Violations of this code may result in suspension

from athletics for the remainder of the season and possibly longer. See the School Board Policy for further information.

4. The use of tobacco or tobacco products, including, but not limited to, vapes, by student athletes is strictly prohibited. Coaches will set the standard for the following of this rule.
5. The rules and regulations in this code shall apply to any violation on and off school premises during the season of participation. Any violations during the off-season may result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the head coach.
6. Personal Conduct: The athlete should exemplify an outstanding school student in all ways. Some areas to be considered are:
  - a. Classroom-school building behavior
  - b. Mode of dress
  - c. Conduct at social and school functions
  - d. Class cutting by an athlete
  - e. Habitual tardiness to school (See Athletic Director)
  - f. Be a leader; set a positive tone for your peers and teammates

**STUDENTS WHO VIOLATE THE CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE WESTERN BEAVER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE DISCIPLINED ACCORDING TO ITS POLICY. ANY STUDENT WHO IS SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE (PLAY OR PRACTICE) IN ANY EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY FOR THE DURATION OF THE SUSPENSION OR LONGER.**

### **HOME-SCHOOLERS IN ATHLETICS**

All home-schooled students must abide by the same set of rules as set forth by the PIAA and described in this handbook. Home-schooled athletes must also show evidence of academic eligibility, required immunizations, and appropriate health screenings. If there are any questions regarding home-schooled children, please contact the Athletic Director immediately.

### **TEAM RULES**

Coaches are encouraged to develop a set of “Team Rules” which governs the individual sport. These rules must be approved by the Athletic Director and kept on file in the athletic office. When a student becomes a member of a team or group, he/she is committed to all the rules and expectations of that team/organization and coach/advisor.

These rules, regulations, and expectations are published prior to the season and provided to the student and his/her parents/guardians at that time.

Full participation in extracurricular activities by any student requires skillful time management and prior planning for involvement in multiple events and activities. This is part of the skills and advantages that participants develop and nurture through

membership in extracurricular activities.

Acknowledging that students by nature of their youth and inexperience are still developing life skills which include time management and prioritization of responsibilities, the Board of School Directors, Administration, and Coaches shall encourage each extracurricular activity participant to strive to achieve the highest academic as well as athletic standards as an individual and as a team.

All coaches and sponsors will reinforce the premise that the student has the responsibility to maintain sound academic standings.

If, during the course of planned season activities, a situation develops which places an academic activity at risk, it is the **student's responsibility** to bring this issue to the attention of their **immediate team head coach or sponsor** with a proposed resolution **prior to the start of the activity**.

Full participation and attendance at all competitions, practices, and events is expected of all participants. In the event of an extreme personal or family emergency and/or a conflict with academic demands, at the request of the parents/guardians and with the approval of the immediate team head coach or Athletic Director participation may be excused or abbreviated. This may only be arranged at the discretion of the team head coach or Athletic Director prior to the event. The head coach or Athletic Director may also grant these exceptions when the schedule presents an undue burden or academic strain on the students as a result of competitions/events being scheduled on two or more consecutive school evenings. **All arrangements must be made prior to the start of the event/competition.**

## PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION

### Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult tasks. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide even greater benefit to the student-athletes. As parents, when your child(ren) becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand the expectations placed on your child(ren). This begins with clear communication from the coach of that program.

### The Coach is Responsible for:

1. Locations and times of practices and games
2. Special team requirements (i.e. equipment, off-season training)
3. Discipline that results in the denial of participation

### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. Treatment of your child(ren): both mentally and/or physically
2. Concerns and/or questions regarding strengths/weaknesses/behavior of YOUR child
3. Ways to assist your child(ren) to improve

4. Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance (these will be reviewed on an individual basis)

### **Issues NOT APPROPRIATE to Discuss with Coaches**

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

### **If You Have a Concern to Discuss with the Coach, You Should:**

1. Please do not attempt to confront the coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promise a resolution.
2. Call to set up an appointment with the coach. (Western Beaver's main number at the Jr.-Sr. High School is 724-643-8500.) The Athletic Director's extension is 1100

## **HAZING**

Western Beaver School District does not sanction "hazing" of students in any way. Hazing, whether instituted by one person or by a group of people directed against a person or group of persons, is not permitted by the school district and is not condoned by any staff member. The school district recognizes that hazing may endanger the physical or mental health or safety of a student against which the hazing has been directed.

Hazing will result in school district disciplinary action against those administering, participating in, and/or responsible for the hazing. This will mean suspension and/or expulsion. In addition, legal charges may be filed with the police department that can include disorderly conduct, harassment, reckless endangerment, or any other appropriate charges.

### **WHAT IS HAZING?**

- Any type of activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, which subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation, or that adversely affects the student's mental or physical health, safety, or dignity.
- Any type of physical activity that subjects a student to an unreasonable risk of harm or adversely affects the student's mental or physical health or safety, such as: exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or carrying objects not normally associated with the individual's activity.
- Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, or placing a harmful substance on the student.
- Any activity that discourages someone from entering or remaining in the organization or that may reasonably be expected to cause someone to leave the organization rather than submit to such activity.
- Any activity that induces, causes, or requires someone to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Penal Code.

## **WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF HAZING?**

- Requiring calisthenics such as sit-ups, push-ups, etc.
- Requiring the carrying of items such as: rock, helmets, books, horns, etc.
- Preventing or restricting class attendance
- Forcing someone to eat or drink against their will
- Placing items or substances on a person's body such as Ben-Gay, etc.
- Forcing a student to wear inappropriate garments
- Throwing items at an individual
- Paddling or striking in any manner
- Marking or branding

Hazing is not an educational experience. Victims do not learn worthwhile outcomes from hazing. There is no value to an activity that takes advantage of an individual. Hazing incidents cannot stand up in a court of law.

Individuals that know of hazing incidents should step forward and make the sponsor and administration aware of the situation.

In no way is the district trying to curtail any activity that will, in fact, develop leadership or promote scholarship. These are facets of student involvement that will grow through healthy participation in activities. Failure to follow this policy could result in removal from the team or squad.

## **DISCRIMINATION**

### **TITLE IX STATEMENT**

Western Beaver County School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX and Section 504.

### **PROTECTED HANDICAPPED STUDENTS**

The Western Beaver County School District will not discriminate against protected handicapped students as defined in Chapter 15 or the regulations of the State Board of Education. The Western Beaver County School District will provide each protected handicapped student enrolled in the district, without cost to the student or family, those related services of accommodations which are needed to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities without discrimination and to the maximum extent of the student's ability. For information regarding civil rights, grievance procedures or handicapped students, please contact: Mr. Eric Palmer, Title IX, Section 504 and Support Programs Coordinator, 216 Engle Road, Industry, PA, 15052, Phone (724) 643-8500; Fax: (724) 643-8504.

## **ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECRUITING**

Student athletes should conduct a meeting with their high school coach at the end of their junior season. Let your coaches know that you are very interested in participating in

collegiate athletics and discuss your potential as an NCAA Division I, II, or III player. Do not be afraid to ask for their help. Your coach will help you, but there are limitations as to how much he/she can do. There are over 3,000 colleges and universities that offer athletic programs. Contacting each and every one of them is impossible for your coach. See the information section of this handbook for more recruiting tips.

### **CANCELLATION OF EVENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Based on a cancellation or early dismissal of school, as directed by the Superintendent of Schools, due to inclement weather, the following shall apply:

1. All rehearsals, practices, competitions, performances are cancelled unless administrative approval is given. Administrative consideration will be given to the need for the rehearsal/practice based on the immediacy of the competition/performance and the severity of the weather/road conditions.
2. Coaches/sponsors may request permission to use school facilities on the day of cancellation. This must be done on a single-day basis.
3. Students cannot be required to attend an approved activity/practice/rehearsal during a school closure. Participation must be voluntary.
4. All home activities involving spectators are cancelled unless administrative approval is given.
5. If an early dismissal occurs, all activities are cancelled.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT ATHLETES**

1. Athletes will not be permitted in any area of the building after school, except those areas designated by the coaches or Athletic Director.
2. Athletes should report immediately to the locker rooms after the dismissal bell in the afternoon and practices should be scheduled to begin at a definite time.
3. No practice arrangements – formal or informal – are permitted without the presence of supervisory coaching personnel.
4. Students are not to remain after school unless coaches are present, or arrangements are made for supervision.
5. Athletic shoes with spikes are not to be worn in the building.
6. Athletes are to leave their automobile in the designated student parking areas. NO EXCEPTIONS
7. You may not practice without properly signed physical packets.

8. You are responsible for all of the enclosed guidelines.

### **WEIGHT ROOM REGULATIONS**

Shirts and shoes are required at all times; tank tops are acceptable.

Nobody is to be in the weight room alone. Wait outside the weight room for a coach. Under NO circumstances is any student permitted to be in the weight room unsupervised.

Lifters must work with a partner.

Replace all weights on racks immediately following use.

Know your limits! Work with the instructor in determining your limits.

Do the lifts correctly. It is better to use lighter weights for lifting than heavier weights and run the risk of injury.

Warm up with the proper stretching exercises.

No food or drinks (except water or sport drinks) are allowed inside the weight room.

No horseplay or profanity.

Do not abuse the equipment. This equipment will have to be used for years to come. Please respect all the school district property.

Any equipment that is broken must be reported immediately to the Athletic Director.

To reduce the risk of infections, wipe equipment after use to sanitize before the next individual uses the equipment.

### **Social Media Guidelines for Student-Athletes**

The following guidelines are intended to provide the framework for student-athletes to conduct themselves safely and responsibly in an online environment. As a student-athlete at Western Beaver, you should:

- Be careful how much and what kind of identifying information you post to online social network sites. Anyone can access your page. It is unwise to provide information such as full date of birth, social security number, address, cell phone numbers, class schedules, bank account information, or details about your daily routine. All can facilitate identity theft or stalking. Social Media provide numerous privacy settings for information contained in its pages – use these settings to protect private information. Once posted, the information becomes the property of the website. Please understand, privacy settings may help protect private information, but it is not a guaranteed safeguard. Any text or photo placed online is

completely out of your control the moment it is placed online, even if you limit access to your site.

- Be aware that Western Beaver employees, including coaches, faculty, and administrators, can access these sites just as easily as your peers. Colleges, current and future employers often access online social network sites for information. Many graduate programs and scholarship committees search these sites to screen applications. You should think about any information you post on Social Media as it provides an image of you to a prospective employer. The information posted is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image of which you can be proud.
- Do not have a false sense of security about your rights to freedom of speech. Understand that freedom of speech is not unlimited. Inappropriate postings on social network sites may easily result in serious repercussions.
- Be cautious about what you share about your team. You may not post information about yourself, your teammates or your coaches that will put you or your team at a competitive disadvantage, including but not limited to injury reports, game plans and strategy.
- Be aware that you are personally liable for any copyright violations you may commit, whether intentional or inadvertent. Copyright violations may include posting photographs, audio, or video of people or things that are not you or your personal property, or for which you do not have express written permission to distribute.
- Be aware that you are personally liable for any violations of other students' privacy rights, including violation of rights protected by state and federal privacy laws.
- Understand that malicious use of online networks, including derogatory language or comments about any person, demeaning statements about, or threats to any third party, incriminating photographs or statements that depict private behavior, hazing, sexual harassment, vandalism, stalking, underage drinking, illegal drug use, or other inappropriate behavior will be subject to investigation and possible sanctions by the Western Beaver School District and/or the Police Department.
- Students that post material that is offensive and/or detrimental to teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, or any other person associated with the athletic programs are subject to discipline including but suspensions and removal from athletic teams. **THINK BEFORE YOU POST**
- Consider these recommended practices:
  - Profile/privacy settings are set to only friends.
  - Contact information is set to only friends.
  - Be selective in what information your friends can share about you.
  - Even though pictures are included in "profile information," be very careful of what types of pictures you place on a social networking site.
  - Be mindful of what pictures you are allowing to be taken that can be posted by friends.

## **M.R.S.A. Prevention**

Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) infections, once seen primarily in hospital settings among older and sicker patients, have become increasingly common in recent years in community settings among healthy adults and children, including athletes who are in close contact with one another and share athletic equipment and locker room facilities. Anywhere from 20% to 50% of the general population may have staph bacteria present in or on their body without causing illness, and some proportion of these staph are antibiotic-resistant. Any staph can penetrate the skin and cause infection, which may result in redness, warmth, pimples or boils, sometimes with or without puss. Staph bacteria are spread mainly by skin-to-skin contact, especially via openings in the skin such as cuts, wounds or abrasions; by direct contact with contaminated items or surfaces; and also may result from poor hygiene.

Health officials recommend the following precautions to reduce the risk of MRSA infections:

- Wash hands with soap and warm running water frequently, especially after contact with nose secretions and drainage from skin openings.
- Skin openings -- cuts, wounds or abrasions -- should be covered at all times with clean, dry bandages.
- Dispose of used bandages in a manner so others don't have contact with infectious drainage.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as towels, washcloths, razors and clothing that may have come in contact with an infected wound.
- Wash soiled linens and clothing in hot water and detergent. Drying in a hot dryer is better than air-drying.
- Clean potentially contaminated surfaces with a commercial disinfectant or a bleach-water solution -- ¼ cup of household bleach to one gallon of water.

## **Concussion Management System**

In the interest of safety for student athletes, the Western Beaver School District has invested in Concussion Management. This program helps assist medical personnel in making safe return to play decisions following a concussion. Students will take a Baseline Exam every (2) two years. It is recommended that students entering grades 7-9-11 take the Baseline Exam. Students must have an exam on file that was administered within 2 years.

Following a suspected concussion, the athlete will undergo a second evaluation identical to the first. Baseline data from the initial evaluation (along with current injury symptoms) will serve as a direct comparison to determine the athlete's recovery from injury. At that time, the injured athlete should see a certified medical doctor trained in reading the specific results of this test. From there a diagnosis can be rendered.

## **Parents' Guide for Head Injuries**

The following is informational only and parents should contact a doctor for specific direction and not rely solely on the information contained in the guide.

Any head, face, neck or jaw injury has the potential to become dangerous if not treated properly. The danger may not appear immediately, so the first 24 hours is vital to determine possible severity. The following is offered to help guide parents during the time after their child's head injury. These guidelines are not meant as and should not be used as substitutes for competent medical care.

- Awaken the athlete every two hours to check for these symptoms and his/her general mental clarity.
- Administer NO medication during the first 24 hours, including aspirin, Tylenol or Advil unless they are prescribed by a physician.
- Allow only clear fluids, avoid excessive eating or drinking.
- If any of the following occur, seek medical assistance immediately:
  - a. Severe or increasing headaches
  - b. Dizziness
  - c. Inability to arouse or awaken the athlete
  - d. Pupils of unequal size
  - e. Nausea or vomiting
  - f. Tingling, numbness or lack of control in arms or legs
  - g. Blurred or double vision
  - h. Mental confusion
  - i. Clear drainage from the ears or nose
  - j. Breathing difficulties

## **Collegiate Athletic Options** (Levels of Play)

### **1. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)**

NCAA Division I. This is the highest level of play and they offer the most scholarships. These are the large schools with large student populations.

NCAA Division II. Smaller specialty schools that provide scholarships as well as financial aid grants.

NCAA Division III. No athletic scholarships but many high school graduates receive academic scholarships, financial aid, grants, and jobs on campus, also known as work-study programs.

### **2. National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)**

NAIA can give athletic scholarships as well as other benefits to enable a player to attend school.

### **3. National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)**

Financial aid is provided for the cost of tuition and books. If you are not ready physically or mentally to attend a 4-year college, then a junior college that offers athletic programs may be the answer.

## **Recruiting Tips**

- Determine if you are good enough to participate at the collegiate level. Build support groups that can give you good sound advice that would consist of your parents, coaches, principals, Athletic Director, and community members that have participated in collegiate athletics that have seen you play.
- Once you have set your goals for collegiate athletics, begin to market yourself. You can only be offered a college scholarship if a college coach or scout has an opportunity to see you play. This is where you need to begin to market yourself to the colleges of your choice.
- Go to the guidance office, athletic office, or the Internet and obtain addresses of the colleges that you would be interested in.
- Prepare a letter to be sent to the college coaches.
- Prepare a resume of your career.
- Prepare a highlight tape and game tape to send with the resume (be sure to label your game tape with the appropriate information – name, address, school name, etc.).

- Send the information before your senior season.
- The majority of the colleges will send you a questionnaire; complete it and return it to the colleges immediately.
- If you are an outstanding student, you will have opportunities to obtain athletic and academic scholarships. Many of the top academic universities have stringent minimum academic entrance requirements where many athletes cannot qualify. Talk with your guidance counselor/coach to obtain the names of academic universities in which you may obtain an athletic scholarship. This is a great opportunity for you if you are an outstanding student.
- It is suggested that you attend a summer camp to increase your chances of being noticed. You will have the opportunity to perform in front of the college coaching staff for four or five days. Your high school coach or the Athletic Director can help you obtain information for summer camps.
- If all else fails, you have the opportunity to walk on at the college of your choice and have the chance to earn a college scholarship later. It is very feasible to walk on a team and earn a partial or full scholarship for your remaining years if you become a starter.

**College coaches are looking for all around athletic ability first. They look for coordination, speed, jumping ability, size, and strength. College coaches recognize that superior all-around athletes are usually good at a variety of sports. Just by participating in different sports, you are showing scouts that you have some unique gifts – unique because most young athletes can barely excel at one sport, much less two or three. If you are a standout at two or three sports, then you are a special talent.**

### **NCAA Eligibility Center and Guide for College-Bound Student Athletes**

A guide for college-bound student athletes and their parents may be obtained by logging on to <http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/CBSA15.pdf> or by calling the Athletic Office for a printed copy.

Find out if you are on track to meet academic eligibility and core-course requirements. See what the graduation rate of the athletic program is and that the athletes in your sport are at the colleges in which you are interested. Ask what academic support services are available and how academic progress is tracked.

## **Recruiting: What Do I Need To Do?**

### **• Grade 9**

- o Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.
- o Start identifying field of study to pursue and schools of potential interest.

### **• Grade 10**

- o Verify with your high school guidance counselor and the online core-course listing to make sure you are on track.
- o Talk with your High School Coach and other coaches to determine your highest potential level of play in college.
- o Begin composing a personal bio form and highlight film.

### **• Grade 11**

- o Register with the eligibility center.
- o Make sure you are still on course to meet core-course requirements (verify you have the correct number of core courses and that the core courses are on your high school's 48-H with the eligibility center).
- o After your junior year, have your high school guidance counselor send a copy of your transcript. If you have attended any other high schools, make sure a transcript is sent to the eligibility center from each high school.
- o When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999").
- o Begin your amateurism questionnaire.
- o Update personal bio form and highlight film. Send to potential schools of interest.
- o Contact coaches at schools you are interested in.

### **• Grade 12**

- o When taking the ACT or SAT, request test scores to be sent to the eligibility center (the code is "9999").
- o Complete amateurism questionnaire and sign the final authorization signature online on or after April 1 if you are expecting to enroll in college in the fall semester. (If you are expecting to enroll for spring semester, sign the final authorization signature on or after October 1 of the year prior to enrollment.)
- o Have your high school guidance counselor send a final transcript with proof of graduation to the eligibility center.
- o Finalize personal bio form and highlight film. Send to schools still of interest.
- o Continue to contact coaches from schools of interest.

## PARENTS

### Positive Athletic Parenting

- Be a positive motivator.
- Do not degrade the coach or their staff; we all make mistakes. Instead emphasize loyalty and perseverance and use it as a teaching moment.
- Encourage your child to play for the enjoyment of the experience.
- Do not focus on personal statistics, game scores, or athletic scholarships.
- Encourage participation in several sports. Specialization leads to decreased enjoyment/burnout
- Be realistic about your child's abilities.
- Be a good role model for your child.
- Encourage good decision making.
- Talk to your child on a daily basis.

### Parent/Coach Relationship

#### **Communication/Information Coaches Should Provide to Parents:**

- Coach's expectations of players and their parents
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements (i.e. special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.)
- Team rules and guidelines
- Lettering requirements
- Disciplinary procedures
- Information regarding procedures to contact coaches

#### **Communication / Information Parents Should Provide to Coaches:**

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to the coach's expectations of their child
- Information regarding student injuries and medical condition

#### **Appropriate Concerns for Parents to Discuss with Coaches:**

- Treatment of their child
- Ways to help their child improve
- Concerns about their child's behavior

#### **Concerns NOT Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:**

- Playing time / positions / assignments
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student athletes

**POOR BEHAVIOR TOWARD OFFICIALS, COACHES, and PLAYERS at athletic contests will result in loss of privileges to attend Western Beaver Athletic Events**

## **PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

All parents and guardians shall pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for their child participating in activities of the Western Beaver School District by following this CODE OF CONDUCT.

Attending and watching interscholastic sports is a privilege not a right. Failure to behavior in an appropriate manner at athletic contests may result in ejection from events and possible suspensions for a period of time to be determined by district officials. Spectators asked to leave may also be required to complete PIAA sportsmanship courses.

OTHER SPECTATORS – Parents agree to respect other fans and not engage in any verbal or physical confrontations. Parents should be role models for their children, display sportsmanship, and conduct themselves with dignity as a member of the Western Beaver Athletic Community.

DISTRICT PROPERTY AND POLICIES – Parents agree to respect district property and abide by all district policies including but not limited to purchasing tickets for events with admission fees and the use of alcohol and drugs including tobacco while on school grounds.

OPPOSING PLAYERS AND COACHES – Parents agree to display proper sportsmanship and avoid any taunting or intimidating of opposing players or coaches.

COACHING STAFFS – Parents agree not to engage in any debate of any kind with coaches during a time period from 2 hours before the game until the morning after the game. Parents understand that coaches are not obligated to discuss issues of playing time or positioning. Parents will not question coaches about any particular play calls or game strategies. It is suggested that parents contact the Head Coach of the team and schedule an appointment to discuss any concerns specific to their son/daughter. If desired, the parent or coach may request that the Athletic Director be present while the concerns are discussed. Any yelling at or public confrontation of any coach will not be tolerated. This includes both home and away events. Parents may communicate with coaches via telephone or electronic communication; however all communication must be handled in a calm and civilized manner. Any threatening or derogatory messages will be considered a violation of this code of conduct.

OFFICIALS – The adults that officiate our games are neutral parties who are trained in the sport that they preside over. While parents and fans may disagree with an official's call or judgment from time to time, parents do not have the right to yell at or criticize any working official during our games.

BOOSTER GROUPS – Parents are asked to become involved with respective Booster Groups. Booster Groups work in conjunction with the coaches to provide support for the teams. Booster Groups are not a part of the district, but parents are asked to conduct themselves in a manner aligned with this same CODE OF CONDUCT.

SOCIAL MEDIA – Parents will refrain from positing material that may be deemed negative or detrimental to the Western Beaver Athletic Program and its teams, coaches, players, opponents,

and all others associated with the athletic contests that our teams participate in.

ENFORCEMENT – Any time district personnel or hired security feel that a parent or fan is in violation of any of the above, the person(s) involved may be removed from the facility depending on the severity and cooperativeness of the person(s) involved. Depending on the severity or repetitive nature, the district reserves the right to issue a verbal or written warning or ban individuals from attending events.

CHAIN OF COMMAND – The chain of command to handle disagreements or issues is as follows:

- 1) Discussion with Coach
- 2) Discussion with Athletic Director
- 3) Discussion with School Principal
- 4) Discussion with Superintendent of Schools
- 5) Request discussion with Board of Education

By signing below, I certify that I have read, understand, and will comply with the Western Beaver Athletic Parent Code of Conduct. I understand that interscholastic athletics are designed to teach student-athletes sportsmanship and teamwork. I promise to let the Players Play, the Coaches Coach, and the Officials Officiate so that all fans can enjoy the contests.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student – Athlete’s Name (Please Print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian #1 (Please Sign)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian #2 (Please Sign)**

**THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANDS LISTED ON THE STUDENT’S SCHOOL RECORD FOR THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR**

# **Western Beaver Jr.-Sr. High School**

## **Student-Athlete Handbook**

**Parent/Guardian and Student-Athlete**  
**MUST READ AND SIGN**

**I have read the Student-Athlete Handbook**  
**and understand its contents.**

---

**Student-Athlete Signature and Date**

---

**Parent/Guardian Signature and Date**

## PLAYING TIME CONTRACT

Although participation is encouraged by all levels of athletes, coaches are expected to compete at the highest level with players that, in the coaches' opinion, produce the most competitive team necessary to win!!

Playing time is NOT GUARANTEED. Coaches have the responsibility to put the most competitive team in the contest. The range of the athlete's ability from the first to last players is usually very significant. Athletes and parents need to discuss the non-guaranteed playing time policy.

I have read and understood the playing time contract.

---

Athlete's Signature

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

---

Date

---

Date

**Western Beaver Junior-Senior High School**

**Athletic Permission Form**

The following form must be completed if a student is to return home  
with his/her parent instead of riding the bus.

**Name of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Who will be taking the student?:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Athletic Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Athletic Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Western Beaver Junior Senior High School**

**Athletic Permission Form for the Entire Season**

The following form must be completed if a student is to return home with his/her parent instead of riding the bus.

**Name of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sport:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature/Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

This form will be kept on file with the Athletic Director and the coach of your child. This allows your child to go home with you or the child's guardian during this sport season only. It is YOUR responsibility to see the coach after each game that you will drive your child home.

## **Western Beaver Coaches/Athletic Personnel Code of Conduct**

We believe that the primary function of athletic coaching is educating students through participation in interscholastic competitions.

All interscholastic programs under the direction of the Head Coach are designed to enhance academic achievement and never interfere with opportunities for success in the classroom or on the playing fields.

All coaches will prioritize the welfare of the student athletes at all times.

Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the Western Beaver School District Board of Directors.

Our coaches will set an example of high ethical and moral conduct while collaborating with students, officials, administrators, media, and community.

Our coaches shall promote the entire interscholastic program and direct his/ her program in harmony with district wide programs.

Our coaches shall exert influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster organizations, and administrators.

Our coaches shall respect and support contest officials. They shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against officials.

Our coaches will avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with student athletes. Additionally, they shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

Our coaches will not engage in or permit profanity or obscene gestures. Physical or psychological intimidation or verbal abuse is also prohibited.

Our coaches shall remain current with building and district wide disciplinary policies as well as WPIAL and PIAA rules and regulations.

Communications between coaches, parents, and individual students is often confidential. Sharing this type of information personally or via e-mail or text messaging among other team members is inappropriate.

I agree to the terms of this agreement, and I have read the Western Beaver Athletic Handbook and I understand all of the information and policies of the Western Beaver Athletic Department.

NAME (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_