



PARENT & STUDENT ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Avon High School

<http://athletics.avonlocalschools.org/>

A Message to the Parents

This handbook is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in interscholastic athletics, and you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. The Avon Schools are pleased of your interest in the Athletic Program. We believe that a comprehensive program of student activities is vital to the educational development of our students. As students elect to participate, there are many questions which both you and your son/daughter may have regarding the Athletic Program. The purpose of this handbook is to answer as many questions about the policies and philosophy of the program as possible. Our intent is to keep students and parents as informed as possible in order to assist in making the athletic experience a positive one for our student athletes. We are hopeful that this handbook will be of assistance to you as your child participates in the Athletic Program at Avon High School.

With Eagle Pride,

Erich Frombach
Athletic Director

Administration and Key Phone Numbers

ADMINISTRATION

Kristina Buller, Principal	440-934-6108
Mike Ryan, Assistant Principal	440-934-6171
Rob Woods, Assistant Principal	440-934-6171

Fax Machine	440-934-5450
Sandy Batesole, Principal's Secretary	440-934-6108

ATTENDANCE SECRETARY

Holly Cachat, Attendance Secretary	440-934-6171
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GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Courtney Reinart, Secretary	440-934-5115
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ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Erich Frombach, Athletic Director	440-934-5111
Kari Hricovec, Sports Information Director	440-934-5111
Jim O'Leary, Athletic Trainer	440-213-3371
Fax Machine	440-934-5431
Ohio High School Athletic Association (O.H.S.A.A.)	www.ohsaa.org

Team Schedules and to check for Cancellations. Go to: <http://athletics.avonlocalschools.org/>

Head Coaches

Baseball	Craig Kirschner	Girls Basketball	Meghan Larrick
Boys Basketball	Kevin Sapara	Girls X Country	Matt Nortz
Boys X Country	Matt Nortz	Cheerleading	Marissa Johnson Marilou
Football	Mike Elder	Girls Golf	Kaitlin Neumann
Golf	Jeff Stevens	Softball	Ken Matuszak
Hockey	Kyle Botos	Gymnastics	Chelsea Cahill
Boys Swimming & Diving		Girls Swimming Diving	
Boys Soccer	Chris Dore	Girls Soccer	Attila Csiszar
Boys Tennis	Eric Koury	Girls Tennis	Don Stevens
Boys Track & Field	Scott Lanham	Girls Track & Field	Sam Ulery
Boys Lacrosse	Paul Allen	Girls Lacrosse	Todd Kortowich
Wrestling	Jeremy Johnson	Volleyball	Julie Radigan

Philosophy

Participation in the Avon School's extracurricular activities is both an honor and a privilege. The Avon Schools believe that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. High standards of behavior, scholarship, and citizenship are important to a sound athletic program. Students volunteering to participate must assume the responsibilities of this privilege and are required to meet expectations beyond those set for non participants.

Avon Schools believe that:

- physical and emotional growth of student participants is the most important goal of participation.
- academic achievement is a prerequisite to participation.
- additional time and energy committed to participation requires that the participants attain and maintain peak physical and mental condition.
- substance abuse can cause significant health problem for adolescents and may also affect the development of skill which are necessary for participation.
- interscholastic athletics can make the educational experience richer and more rewarding and therefore all students are encouraged to participate.
- adherence to certain behavior and academic standards enhances a student athlete's quality of life.
- all teams will "win with honor and lose with class."
- Good Sportsmanship is expected at all times.

In order to gain the right to participate in any extracurricular activity, a student must understand and abide by the "Code of Conduct." The student athlete's intent to abide by this code shall be evidenced in an agreement, which shall be signed by the student athlete and their parent(s) or guardian. This policy operates in conjunction with the Student Code of Conduct, so that, these provisions are part of that code, and all student athletes participating in extracurricular activities are subject to all provisions.

Goals

1. The student athlete shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society.
2. The student shall learn teamwork - To work with others in a democratic society a person must develop self discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. To place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.
3. To help the student athlete attain a drug-free lifestyle.
4. To continue to promote and display good Sportsmanship on and off the field.

Objectives

1. To Be Successful

Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.

2. Sportsmanship

To accept success and defeat like a true sportsman, knowing we have done our best. We must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.

3. To Improve

Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As a student athlete, you must establish a goal and you must constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skill involved and in those characteristics set forth as being desirable.

4. Enjoy Athletics

It is necessary for us to acknowledge all of the personal rewards we derive from athletics and to give sufficiently of ourselves in order to preserve and improve the program.

5. To Develop Desirable Personal Health Habits

To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits.

The Athletic Code of Conduct

Scope of the Athletic Code of Conduct

Effective Immediately for 2018 Fall Sport Athletes. Effective September 1, 2018 for Winter and Spring Athletes: The provisions outlined in this policy **shall be in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, for the duration of the start of the fall season to the end of the school year.** The beginning of the fall season is defined as the first day of practice in the fall that is established by the OHSAA Handbook. The end of the school year is defined as the final day of school or the final formal contest or activity scheduled after the school year ends (this includes tournaments and award banquets). Violations are cumulative throughout the athlete's four years of high school participation and disciplinary actions may carry over from one season to another.

Denial of Participation and Due Process

1. The athlete must have been given previous notice of the expectations of the Athletic Code of Conduct and rules and regulations specific to the sport/activity.
2. When an athlete is in suspected violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct, a hearing will be held to investigate the alleged misconduct.
3. **PLEASE NOTE:** results of related investigations by school administration may be used to determine if there has also been a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
4. The hearing and investigation will be coordinated by the Athletic Director and Principals. At the hearing, the athlete will have the opportunity to discuss the circumstances concerning the incident. Due Process will be followed according to the Avon Local School Policy and Ohio Law.
5. The Athletic Director will determine if there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct and will give the student-athlete and parent/guardian written and/or verbal notification of the decision and penalty assessment (if applicable).
6. The athlete or parent has the right to appeal the decision of the Athletic Director to the building Principal. Any appeal must be requested in writing within five (5) calendar days of the decision notification. The appeal should state the exact reason the decision is being appealed. The Principal may direct this appeal to the Avon Local Schools Athletic Policy Board for a review of this decision. The recommended penalty assessment will begin immediately upon written or verbal notification to the athlete and parent/guardian and will continue throughout the appeal process, unless specified by the building principal.

An athlete represents not only himself/herself but also the Avon Local Schools and Avon Community. Since participation is a privilege, it is important that students and parents/guardians be aware of the rules and expectations. A violation of the Athletic Code of Conduct may result in the denial of the privilege to participate in a sport/activity.

The following expectations are designed to improve the quality of interscholastic athletic competition for each athlete and his/her team. Because of the adverse effects of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, if an athlete is found in violation of the regulation concerning such, the Athletic Director's recommendations for penalty assessment should follow the guidelines as listed. An athlete always has the right to due process.

During the denial of participation period, the athlete may be required to practice and sit/stand behind the team bench dressed in appropriate street clothes during contests unless otherwise specified by the coach and/or Athletic Director. All training rules and requirements of the sport (team rules) will continue to be followed.

Expectations and Consequences

The **minimum discipline/correction** against the offender, in addition to those in the Rules and Regulations within the adopted Student Code of Conduct, will be the following|:

Use or Possession of Drugs, Alcohol Tobacco, and Criminal Policy

The Avon Local Schools' Student Alcohol and Drug Use Policy and this Extracurricular, Co-curricular, and Athletics Policy coincides by stating that no student possess, use, exchange, conceal, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, illegal or look-alike drugs or look-alike substances or drug paraphernalia. This also includes the use or possession of "vape" pens, electronic cigarettes or juuls and possession of materials and or substances that may be used to alter drug tests. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as controlled.

Avon Local Schools are committed to assisting students who exhibit behaviors and attitudes commonly associated with alcohol and other drug use. Faculty, staff, advisors, coaches, and administrators will actively investigate reported alcohol and other drug use by students involved in extracurricular, co-curricular activities, and athletics

No student athlete shall be involved in any illegal act or involvement in activities that are in direct violation of the Ohio Revised Code (i.e. disorderly conduct, domestic violence, theft, trespassing, disturbing the peace, etc). Should these reports be confirmed, the extracurricular, co-curricular, and athletic code of conduct will be upheld.

A. FIRST OFFENSE

The participant or athlete will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of that activity or season and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season.

1. Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) **will have their penalty reduced 20% of the scheduled regular season games.** The suspension will begin with the next contest or game(s). If the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport season, the time will carry over into the athlete's next scheduled game season.

- a. The student agrees to see the SAP/Coordinator/counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily, or
- b. The student and family agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol/drug agency in the community conducted by a Certified Alcoholism/Drug Abuse counselor, and follow the recommendation satisfactorily.

B. SECOND OFFENSE

The participant/athlete will not participate in an extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activity for the remainder of the school calendar year, and forfeiture of all awards and recognition for the activity season. Students who receive professional assistance (at their own financial expense) **will have their penalty reduced 50% of non participation in extracurricular, co-curricular or athletic activities.** Again, if the infraction occurs in the last week of the sport season or if the student is not yet in his or her sport season, the time will carry over into the athlete's next scheduled game season.

NOTE: Professional assistance refers to the following:

The student and parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided at a State approved alcohol/drug agency in the community and conducted by a Certified Alcoholism/Drug Abuse counselor and follow his or her recommendation satisfactorily. The entire cost of such an assessment will be the responsibility of the student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s).

C. THIRD OFFENSE

The participant or athlete will not be permitted to attend or participate in the particular activity or sport for the remainder of his or her scholastic eligibility at Avon High. (The three offenses need not occur during the same year and the three offenses accumulate from year to year.) Reduction in penalties, generally, will not be granted. However, every effort will be made to assist the student. A participant/athlete denied participation for the remainder of his or her eligibility, who has received treatment and has proven he or she has abstained from use for at least six months may ask for reinstatement from the building principal.

In addition to the above consequences, the athlete's role on the team can change. For example: reduced playing time, leadership roles or titles will be taken away, disqualification from post season awards or letters.

Drug or Alcohol Sale or Distribution

First Offense

An athlete found in violation may be denied participation for one calendar year from the date of the violation.

Second Offense

An athlete found in violation a second time may be denied participation permanently.

NOTE: The Athletic Director will maintain records of violations, penalty assessments and other pertinent information for the athlete's four (4) years of high school participation.

Parties (With Illegal Substances Present – Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs)

Attendance at events/parties where drugs and/or alcohol are possessed and/ or consumed illegally is **unacceptable. Athletes should exit the premises immediately.** Failure to exit the premises may result in disciplinary action. Each coach/advisor will address this with his/her team. Disciplinary action for this infraction may include (but is not limited to) loss of playing time and may result in denial of participation for the athlete

Social Media

The use of e-mail messages, text messages, blogs, websites or other electronic communications to make inflammatory or derogatory comments, and/or inappropriate descriptions or pictures regarding another team member, another student, a coach, another school or team, or other staff member is strictly prohibited. For the purposes of this policy, inappropriate comments may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate comments/pictures/descriptions regarding another person's race, ethnic background, culture, religion gender or sexual orientation.

Any violation of our social media policy may result in suspension and/or dismissal from the team

Removal from a Team or Quitting

A student athlete who quits or is removed from a team after 5 days from the official start of practice, will not be permitted to tryout for another sport during the same season or prepare of another sport, until the sport the athlete quit or was removed from has concluded unless extenuating circumstances exist as determine by the athletic director. A student athlete cut from one sport may join another sport during the same season.

Hazing

Hazing by any student athlete or team member involved in athletics at Avon is strictly forbidden. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lesson the prohibition contained in the statement. Any incidents of hazing will be covered by punishment under the Athletic Code of Conduct.

Practice/Contest Attendance

The athlete is expected to attend all team activities as designated by the coach and/or advisor unless excused prior to the absence. Unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action including (but not limited to) loss of playing time or suspension from the team. The coach/advisor will keep records of attendance and inform the parent and Athletic Director when the athlete's absences result in denial of participation. Practice shall only be "Mandatory" beginning with the Ohio High School Athletic Association's 1st Day of Practice. These dates are published in the O.H.S.A.A. Handbook.

If during the school year, and while a member of a school team or squad, the student participates on an organized team engaged in the same sport, he/she shall be ineligible for any further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season.

School Attendance

The athlete must be present for at least 1/2 of the school day (11:15 a.m.) of a practice or contest in order to be eligible to participate in any team activity. Medical appointments, funerals or other emergencies may be excused, if approved by the Athletic Director. If an athlete is absent from school on Friday or the day before a school vacation, he/she may participate in a weekend or vacation contest with parental permission.

Participation on Independent Teams

If during the school year, and while a member of a school team or squad, the student participates on an organized team engaged in the same sport, he/she shall be **ineligible** for any further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season. In addition, athletes who are members of a school team or squad are strongly encouraged NOT to compete on independent teams (different sports) while their season is in progress. It is up to the individual coaches to determine if they will allow players to participate in a different sport during their season.

Squad Selection

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic programs at Avon High School, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without unbalancing the integrity of the sport.

Obviously, time, space facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size of any sport. However, when developing policy in this regard we strive to maximize the opportunities for our students without diluting the quality of the program.

1. Cutting Policies

2. Choosing members of athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of these squads.
3. Lower level coaches should take into consideration the policies of the established Head Coach in the particular program when selecting the squad.
4. Prior to trying out the coach should provide the following information: extent of tryout (minimum of 3 Days) and criteria used in selecting the team.
5. A written evaluation will be provided (at the request of the student) for any student that does not make the team.
6. At the request of the athlete, a conference may be held with the coach to explain the reasons why he or she did not make the team.
7. "Cut Lists" will not be posted.

Communicating with the Coach

Appropriate issues to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

Appropriate Procedure for discussing issues and concerns with coaches:

1. Call and set up an appointment with the coach. The athlete should be present at the meeting.
2. Do Not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice.
3. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, then call to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director. Again, the athlete must be present.

Inappropriate issues

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Other student athletes

NOTE: The student athlete should first try to resolve the situation with the coach before the parent becomes involved.

Equipment Policy

The participant must return school equipment in the condition it was received, within 3 school days of the last contest. Participants must reimburse the Avon Schools the replacement cost of lost or damaged equipment prior to receiving any athletic awards, report cards, or diplomas. A participant must fulfill obligations from previous season before he/she will be permitted to begin participation in any other athletic activities.

Transportation

All student athletes must travel to and from athletic contests and practices in transportation provided by the Athletic Department. Athletes will remain with their squad and under the supervision of a coach when attending away contests. All regular school bus rules will be followed: including food, noise, remaining in seats, care and respect for equipment. Dress appropriately and in good taste.

Parental Permission and Physical Participation

Athletic participation forms for all participants shall be signed by a physician, the participant, and by a parent or guardian and must be on file in the Athletic Director's office before any candidate for a team may participate in a practice or try out. These forms necessitate the physician's certification of the individual's physical fitness no less than once each school year. Students are encouraged to get their physicals during the summer months.

Risk of Participation

All athletes and parents must realize the risk of serious injury which may be a result of athletic participation. Avon Local School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury.

1. Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.
2. Instruct all athletes about the dangers of participation in the particular sport.

Parent Acknowledgment of Athletic Policies

Upon entering Avon High or at the time a student is part of an athletic team, he/she will be able to read and download the athletic code of conduct on the athletic website. It will contain all the necessary forms and information for participating in Athletics. Each parent or guardian shall read all the enclosed material and certify that they understand the Athletic Eligibility Rules and Policies of the Avon Local School District. This signed document will be filed in the Athletic Director's office.

Insurance

The Avon Exempted Local School District does not provide any accident or health insurance coverages for student athletes participating in interscholastic athletics. It will be the responsibility of the parents to maintain an active family accident and health policy while their student is participating in sports. The Athletic Department can provide information on insurance providers if needed.

The O.H.S.A.A. has purchased a lifetime catastrophic insurance plan that will cover any athlete who is injured to the extent of, or more than \$25,000 in medical expenses. This is above what accident and health insurance carried by the family pays above \$25,000.

Student Conduct Policy

As a prospective student-athlete, you are expected to accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing Avon High School and the community of Avon while participating in athletics. School and Athletic Personnel expect you to treat opponents with respect, respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by contest rules, display no behavior that could incite fans or other participants in the contest or which is intended to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances, including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin; cooperate with officials, your coaches and other participants to ensure a fair contest, and live up to the Avon High School Athletic Code of Conduct.

Reasonable Conduct

The Avon High School Athletic Department recognizes that the safety and welfare of individual athletes and teams are a priority. Therefore, athletes will not engage in any acts of criminal activity such as, but not limited to vandalism, assault and battery, hazing, theft or other disruptive behavior.

Athletes are also expected to behave appropriately during school and extracurricular activities. Detrimental actions include, but are not limited to insubordination, repeated absenteeism, fighting, sexual misconduct, negative/apathetic attitude, unsportsmanlike conduct, lying, and inappropriate language or gestures. Any student referred to the office for a school rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in athletics for a period determined by an administrator.

Recognizing the varying degrees of severity, the type of misconduct, and an athlete's previous record of conduct, each situation will be considered individually. The coach and/or Athletic Director, will determine appropriate consequences, which may include denial of participation or dismissal from the team. In all cases, the athlete will have the right to due process and a written record of the incident will be filed with the Athletic Director.

Student-Athlete Conduct Policy

Any student ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant foul shall be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day. In addition, the athlete shall be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until **two (2) regular season/tournament contests** are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football). If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student participates. A student under suspension may not sit on the team bench, enter the locker room or be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during or traveling after the contest(s). A student who is ejected a second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the **second time** in a season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the Commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student participates. It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this regulation is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the Commissioner as specified in the O.H.S.A.A. Tournament Regulations. In accordance with Bylaw 8-3-1, the decision of contest officials is final. These expectations

carry their own set of consequences and when not specifically listed, the coach will set and enforce consequences appropriate to the sport and conduct.

Conflicts in Extra Curricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extra curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligation. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra curricular activities; and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students and parents have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict. This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the coach and /or faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

When conflicts do arise, the coaches and /or sponsors involved will get together and work out a solution so the student does not feel in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, then the Principal and Athletic Director will have to make the decision based on the following:

1. The relative importance of each event.
2. The relative contribution the student can make.
3. How long each event has been scheduled.
4. Talk with parents.

In-season athletes (O.H.S.A.A. sponsored sports) shall not be permitted to attend an open gym (field, court, etc.) by coaches of an out of-season sport.

VACATIONS POLICY

Vacations by athletic team members during a sports season are **extremely discouraged**. Parents/Athletes wishing to do so may wish to reassess their commitment to being an athlete.

In the event an absence due to a vacation is unavoidable, an athlete must:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents or guardians while on vacation.
2. Prior to the vacation, contact the head coach for his/her approval.
3. Be willing to assume the consequences of suspension from game(s) and/or status on the squad as a starter, 2nd string, 3rd sting, etc.

Eligibility

SCHOLARSHIP

The Avon Local School District will operate in accordance with the Ohio High School Athletic Association's rules, regulations, and policies as they pertain to academic eligibility. The Board of Education permits students in grades 7 through 12 to participate in interscholastic co-curricular activities if they meet the following criteria:

1. Students enrolling in the seventh will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement.
2. All seventh and eighth graders are eligible to participate during a grading period if they have passed 5 classes which met five days per week the previous grading period.
3. Students entering 9th -12th grade are eligible to participate during a grading period if they have passed a minimum of five one-credit courses, or the equivalent, the previous grading period.
4. Students in grades 7 through 12 are eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics as long as they meet the above requirements, even if they receive a failing grade the previous grading period.
5. An incomplete will be treated as a failing grade.
6. Summer school grades, semester averages, yearly averages, and exam grades have no effect on eligibility.

RESIDENCE

You may attend any public or nonpublic high school in which you are accepted when you enter a high school from a 7th-8th grade school.

Eligibility at that school is then established by:

1. Participating in a contest (scrimmage, preview or regular season game) prior to the first day of school, or
 2. Attending the first day of school at any member school.
- If there is a change of custody, you must live in the same school district as your legal guardian.
 - If your parent or legal guardian live outside of Ohio, you are ineligible unless one of the exceptions to the regulation is met. There are four (4) exceptions to this regulation. You and your parents should arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review these exceptions.
 - If additional questions remain on the regulations on residence, school principals or athletic administrators should contact the OHSAA. for the athlete and/or his/her team.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Once eligibility has been established at a member school, those who transfer to a different school will be ineligible for athletics for 50% of the season for every sport played at the previous school. The student will only be allowed to play in the **first** 50% of the season. They will not be able to play during the second half of the season. This includes the tournament.

- There are exceptions to this regulation. To see if you qualify for an exception, you and your parents should arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator and review The OHSAA
- Transfer Bylaw brochure prior to transferring schools.
- If additional questions remain on the regulations on transfers, school principals or athletic administrators should contact the OHSAA.

SEMESTERS OF ENROLLMENT

After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, you are permitted eight (8) semesters of athletic eligibility.

- The semesters are taken in order of attendance once ninth-grade eligibility has been established.
- Semesters are counted toward eligibility whether you participate in interscholastic athletics or not.
- Those with a disability may qualify for an exception to this regulation and should arrange a meeting with the principal or athletic administrator to review the exception.

AGE LIMITATIONS

When a high school student (grades 9-12) turns 20 years of age, he/she becomes ineligible for interscholastic athletics. There is an exception to this bylaw, so please arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator to review this exception within Bylaw 4-2-1 in the OHSAA Handbook.

AWARDS

You may receive awards as a result of athletic participation in interscholastic athletics from any source. However, the value cannot be more than \$400 per award.

AMATEUR STATUS

You will lose your amateur status and forfeit your eligibility if you:

- Compete for money or other monetary compensation.
- Receive any award, equipment or prize of monetary value greater than \$400 per item.
- Capitalize on your athletic fame by receiving money or gifts of monetary value.
- Sign a professional playing contract in the sport in which you had participated.

- Sign with a professional agent (Ohio law).
- Fail to return equipment or uniforms issued by a school or non-school team or organization when the season for that sport is over.

FALSE INFORMATION

If you compete under a name other than your own or provide a false address, you immediately become ineligible

OPEN GYMS/FACILITIES

School officials may designate open gyms or facilities and the sports to be played. You may participate in open gyms or facilities provided:

- No one is limited from participating.
- No one is required to attend.
- No school officials invite selected students or determine the teams.
- No timing or written scoring is kept.
- No coaching or instruction is provided.
- No one is restricted from observing.

Violating these rules may result in you being declared ineligible for a maximum of one (1) year.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

You may attend camps, clinics and workshops that involve team play any time between June 1 and July 31.

- Team play means there is more than one player opposing one player.

There is no limit on the number of students from the same school team that may participate on the same non-school team from June 1 to July 31.

You may receive instruction from a coach from a school team only:

1. During the season of the sport, or
2. For 10 days only from June 1 to July 31.

You may receive individual skill instruction from a non-school coach at any time during the year in individual or group lessons.

Members of a school football team may play in non-contact football contests and attend non-contact team football camps at any time between June 1 and July 31.

Remember, however, that the 10-day regulation for instruction from school coaches is in effect.

Effective Sept. 3, 2013:

Individual instruction is defined as no more than four individuals present at any one time in all combined facilities where instruction is taking place. Team sports include soccer, volleyball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, basketball, softball and baseball. Note that 'no-contact periods' and the summer coaching period (10 days of team coaching permitted from June 1-July 31) will continue to exist and that out-of-season instruction is already permitted in individual sports (golf, tennis, cross country, wrestling, swimming & diving, gymnastics, bowling and track & field).

PARTICIPATION ON NON-SCHOOL TEAMS

You may not try out, practice or participate in a contest with a non-school team while a member of a school team in the same sport.

In individual sports, however, you may practice and try out for a non-school team but may not compete in a contest.

Those in team sports may try out, practice and compete on non-school teams before and after the school season provided:

1. The number of students from the same school on the roster of the non-school team is limited to five (5) students in the sports of soccer and field hockey; four (4) students in the sports of baseball and softball; three (3) students in the sports of volleyball and ice hockey, and two (2) students in the sport of basketball.
2. School football team members are prohibited to compete on non-school teams except from June 1 to July 31.

- Violating these rules during the school season may result in you being declared ineligible for the remainder of the school season.
- Violating these rules outside the school season may result in you being declared ineligible for the next season.
- Violating these rules by a senior may result in that student being declared ineligible for the remainder of the school year.

RECRUITING

You will be declared ineligible if you are recruited by a person or group of persons to change schools. This may also affect the eligibility of the school team.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND EJECTION POLICIES

You are expected to accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community while participating in interscholastic athletics. As a student-athlete, you are expected to:

- Treat opponents, coaches and officials with respect.
- Display no behavior that could incite fans or other participants in the contest or which is intended to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin.
- Remember that winning isn't everything. Having fun, improving your skills, making friends and doing your best are also important.
- The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected for unsporting behavior. If you are ejected, you:
 1. Will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day.
 2. Will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

If you are ejected a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, stiffer penalties, including suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

The complete OHSAA ejection policy for unsporting behavior can be found in the OHSAA Handbook.

Booster Club

The Booster Club is organized to assist the Board of Education in providing funds and equipment for all athletic programs. Without the thousands of dollars generated by the Booster Club, uniforms, equipment, and facilities would not be what they are today. The Booster Club needs the help of the parents

You are invited to attend Booster Club Meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of every month during the school year. The meetings are held at Avon High School in room 226 at 7:00 p.m.

The Athletic Department and School Administration are thankful for your help and the help of the Booster Club in their excellent dedication to the young people in our school district.

Fundraisers

In addition to the Booster Club, some sports may participate in additional fundraisers. Participation in these fundraisers is not mandatory, but all athletes are encouraged to participate.

All fundraisers must be approved by the Athletic Director before they take place.

Pay to Participate

A Pay to Participate fee structure has been adopted by the Board of Education, effective June 22, 2010. The fee is \$200 per student at the high school and \$100 per student at the middle school to participate in all sports and activities listed in Tier 1. It is a one time fee for the entire school year and must be paid in full prior to the deadlines. If the student participates in a second or third Tier 1 sport and/or activity, there will be NO additional fee. Also, there is a \$350 cap per family for Tier 1. All Athletic Sports fall under Tier 1. Check the district website for Tier Information.

The payment of the fee for athletes does NOT guarantee any athlete a certain amount of competition contest time (“playing time”).

The fees are non-refundable with the following exceptions: Sport/activity is cancelled due to insufficient numbers of athletes/students; the student does not make the team/activity (“cut”); and in particular for sports - the student becomes disabled or moves out of the district prior to the first contest; and/or the student becomes academically ineligible prior to the first contest.

Ticket Prices

	Adult	Student/Senior Citizens
Varsity Football*	\$6.00	\$4.00
Basketball	\$6.00	\$4.00
Soccer	\$6.00	\$4.00
Swimming	\$6.00	\$4.00
Volleyball	\$6.00	\$4.00
Wrestling	\$6.00	\$4.00
Hockey	\$6.00	\$4.00
Lacrosse	\$6.00	\$4.00
9th Grade Events	\$3.00	\$2.00
Avon Relays	\$6.00	\$4.00

* Varsity Football - Student pre-sale tickets are sold at the high school for away games for \$4.00. There is no adult pre-sale. All tickets at the gate are \$6.00 (for adults and students)

Varsity Letter Requirements

Each coach reserves the right to set the standards for lettering in his/her particular sport. In all sports, the athlete must complete the season as a squad member in good standing, **and must attend the banquet** in order to receive an award (unless granted permission by their coach prior to the event). At the beginning of each season, the coach shall provide the criteria for lettering in their respective sport/activity.

Summary of Athletic Awards

9th Grade Award Graduation Numerals
1st Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate
2nd Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate of Participation
3rd Year Junior Varsity Award Certificate of Participation
1st Year Varsity Award Varsity Letter and Metal Insert
2nd Year Varsity Award Medal
3rd Year Varsity Award Medal
4th Year Varsity Award Plaque

NOTE: Only 1 varsity letter is received by an athlete. If an athlete letters in multiple sports, he or she will only receive a Metal Insert.

Southwestern Conference Scholar Athlete Award

This award is given to the highest accumulative average by a player who earned a varsity letter in that sport. The average must be at least a 3.0 and seniors are considered first.

All League, All County, and All State Awards

These awards are voted on by coaches from other conference and county schools. In some cases (i.e. All State), the media is involved in these selections.

To find the schedules for all Avon Athletic Teams go to: <http://athletics.avonlocalschools.org/>

Check the above web site after 2:00 p.m. to see if any events have been canceled.

