

Coaches as well as athletes will need to follow the code of ethics listed below.

CODE OF ETHICS

It is the duty of all concerned with school athletics:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
2. To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
5. To establish a positive relationship between visitors and hosts.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by the players on the team.
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional wellbeing of the individual players.
10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game---not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, official, fan, community, state, or nation.

STUDENT ATHLETE RULES

You must have a physical exam report on file with Miss Huff in the office.

Middle School Athletic Grade Policy

Any student that has more than 1 failing grade on their progress report must attend after school tutoring at least twice a week. They will be allowed to practice, but may not participate in games until their grades are no longer failing. Grades will be checked every Thursday. Students who have more than 2 failing grades on their report card will be removed from the team.

Students must be in attendance on the day of a scheduled athletic event from the end of lunch to the end of the school day. The only exception is if the athlete has prior permission from the athletic director.

Students who are on probation and have an electronic monitoring system will not be allowed to play in the games until the device has been taken off.

You are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate way at school, practice, and games. Inappropriate behavior in any setting will bring about disciplinary action. At games, athletes will sit as a team and act appropriately.

All athletes are expected to attend practices. Family emergencies, illness, or a doctor's appt. will be excused. A player that misses more than two unexcused practices will be removed from the team. Players need to come to practice on time.

Practices are not open to parents or other guests.

Athletes should ride the bus to and from games. **If your parents attend the away games, you may ride home with your parent unless you have a note from your parent stating you can ride home with someone else. Your parents or the person you are riding with must sign a release sheet at the game!**

RULES:

Each athlete shall be subject to each of the following rules and procedures.

- 1. General Behavior:** Athletes are expected to be good representatives of Ohio County Elementary-Middle School before, during, and after athletic competitions and practices.
- 2. Training Policy:** Each athlete must have a completed physical examination signed by a physician on file in the Athletic Department before they can begin practicing for their sport. During the season each coach will provide athletes with proper drills and conditioning techniques to maintain physical tone and each athlete shall make every reasonable effort to participate and complete such drills and conditioning techniques.
- 3. Insurance:** It is the policy of the Athletic Department that family insurance be used for payments to the hospitals, doctors, X-rays, etc. for injuries incurred through participation in athletics.
- 4. Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs:** The possession, use, association with, or sale of any type of tobacco/alcohol product or any illegal drug is prohibited. The following will be considered violations of this rule:
 - A. The athlete is observed possessing, using, or using any tobacco product, alcohol product, or any illegal drug by a member of the Rising Sun coaching staff, faculty, or administration.
 - B. The athlete admits to possessing, selling, associating with, or using any type of tobacco product, alcohol product, or illegal drug to a member of the Rising Sun coaching staff, faculty, or administration.

- c. The athlete is cited, pursuant to any juvenile or criminal procedure for possessing, using, associating with, or selling any type of tobacco product, alcohol product, or illegal drug by any agency of the federal government or the State of Indiana.

The student will be removed from the team immediately and will not be allowed to play the rest of the season.

Rising Sun Middle School abides by IHSAA rules.

- 5. **Attendance:** An athlete must be in school and in the classroom on the day of a scheduled athletic event from the end of lunch period to the end of the school day. The only exception is if the athlete has prior permission from the Athletic Director.
- 6. **Equipment:** Athletes may be issued equipment in order to successfully participate or to prevent injury in certain sports. It shall be the responsibility of each athlete to use all reasonable efforts to protect and return any equipment issued by Rising Sun. Any equipment destroyed or lost by an athlete due to unreasonable or malicious conduct shall be replaced by the athlete at his or her cost and in such an event, the athlete may not participate until such equipment is paid for. No athlete will be permitted to take home any equipment owned by the school without the prior consent of the coach and the athletic director.
- 7. **Participation:** An athlete who begins the practice season with a sport is expected to finish the season with that same sport. An athlete will not be permitted to start the season with one sport, drop that sport and change to another sport. If the athlete is dropped from the sport by the coach, he may change to another sport with the approval of the athletic director. If an athlete begins a season with a sport, he or she will not begin practice for the next sports season until the end of the first sport season, unless that athlete is excused by the coach. An example would

be that a soccer player may not drop soccer to begin basketball practice until excused by the soccer coach.

8. **Transportation:** Rising Sun will provide buses for transportation to away athletic events. Athletes shall travel on the bus to and from events, unless excused by their coach. Middle school students may ride home with their parents or if they have a note from their parents, they may ride home with another person. Please make arrangements to pick up your child promptly after practice and games.
9. **Eligibility:** Any student that has more than 1 failing grade on their progress report must attend after school tutoring at least twice a week. They will be allowed to practice, but may not participate in games until their grades are no longer failing. Grades will be checked every Thursday. Students who have more than 2 failing grades on their report card will be removed from the team.

RSMS will abide by IHSA rules.

10. **Social Networking & Media Policy:**

As an educational institution, Rising Sun Middle School, supports and encourages the rights of individuals to free speech. However, student athletes should be concerned with any behavior that might embarrass themselves, their families, their teams, their community and /or Rising Sun Middle School. This includes any activities conducted online through social networking sites (i.e. Facebook, My Space, podcasting, blog sites, You Tube, Twitter, Snapchat or chat rooms.) This also includes the practice of sexting which is a term coined by the media that generally refers to youth writing sexually explicit messages, taking sexually explicit photos of themselves or others in their peer group, and transmitting those photos and/or distributing these photos. Participation in Rising Sun Middle School athletics is a privilege, not a right. As a student athlete, you are a representative of the school and community, and as such, you are always in the public

eye. Keep the following guidelines in mind as you participate in any of the aforementioned public media:

- A. Before participating in any online community, understand that anything posted online is available to anyone in the world. Any text or photo placed online is completely out of your control at the moment it is placed online, --even if you limit access to your site.
- B. You are not to post information, photos, or other items that could embarrass you, your family, and your team. This includes items that may be posted on your page by others.
- C. You should not post your address, phone numbers, birth date, or other personal information. You could be opening yourself up to predators or stalkers.
- D. Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site. Many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes or seek connection with student-athletes to give them a sense of membership on a team.
- E. Coaches and athletic administrators can and do monitor these websites. Disparaging remarks about teammates, coaches, or school officials can serve as grounds for suspension from competition or dismissal from teams, as well as possible legal ramifications.
- F. Students-athletes will face disciplinary measures for violation of team policies, athletic department policies, and state and federal laws.

11. **Athletic Trainer:** An athletic trainer will be available to athletes and coaches. All athletes should be covered under their parents' medical insurance plan. An athlete who is under a doctor's care must provide a "Return to Play" documentation in order to continue participation in any sport.

DISCIPLINE:

1. Each head coach may furnish their athletes with specific rules and/or regulations, which apply to that sport, as that coach deems appropriate (the coach will put these in writing and give each team member a copy and the athletic director). To remain a member of that team, the athlete will be expected to adhere to those rules as well.
2. The principal and/or Athletic Director may discipline an athlete for any action, which they determine, is detrimental to the school or exhibited poor sportsmanship.