

# 2022-2023

## ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOLS  
*academic excellence by design*



# **SVVSD ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

"The Spirit, the Will to Win, and the Will to Excel are the things that endure.  
These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur."

--Vince Lombardi

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

SVVSD Interscholastic Athletics.....	4
Sportsmanship and Respect.....	5
SVVSD Athletic Participation Code.....	6
Residence Rule.....	10
CHSAA General Eligibility.....	12
Age and Attendance.....	15
Transfer Rule.....	16
Undue Influence.....	20
Recruiting.....	21
Amateurism.....	22
Awards.....	23
Outside Competition.....	24
SVVSD Lettering Guidelines.....	25
SVVSD Participation Fees.....	28

# INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Athletics are an important part of the St. Vrain Valley School District's educational program. The district provides a variety of equitable sports programs that give boys and girls the opportunity to participate and compete. Athletics present an excellent situation for experiences and development of democratic cooperation. It provides an avenue for the formation of lasting friendships and other personal interactions. These experiences gained through participation in athletics should aid the student in meeting the demands and challenges of living in a modern american society.

The board encourages students, faculty, and the community to recognize the value of athletics in relation to the total school program.

Participation in interscholastic athletics as a part of the district's educational program is a privilege and not a right for high school students. The administration will develop operating procedures which will be contained in the athletics and activities handbook.

The board subscribes to the rules and regulations of the colorado high school activities association because of its efforts to keep athletics/activities on a high standard of educational values.

The board understands the motivation and values of playing to win at athletic contests and games. The board does not condone winning at any cost and discourages pressures and practices which might tend to submerge good sportsmanship and good mental health beneath the desire to win.

# SVVSD INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Participation in interscholastic athletics as a part of the school's education program is a privilege and not a right for high school students.

To be eligible for participation, students must meet the standards of the St. Vrain Valley School District and the criteria below which have been established by the Colorado High School Activities Association for its member schools.

1. Be a good school and community citizen.
2. Follow CHSAA Eligibility Plan A - During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Academic units of per semester and must not be failing more than the equivalent of one-half Academic unit of credit.
3. Student must have been eligible at the close of the student's last semester of attendance.
4. Has not graduated from a high school or its equivalent.
5. Has a medical screening form turned into the school before being allowed to participate in a sport. A medical screening is only valid for one calendar year.
6. Has completed all necessary sports registration paperwork, including but not limited to: Risk Assessment and Hold Harmless Agreement, Parent Permission, Athletic Insurance Waiver, and Acknowledgment of the athlete and spectator Code of Conduct and CHSAA Respect Pledge. Registration forms are required before participation in tryouts or practices.
7. Pays any participation fees assessed by the district before being allowed to practice in a sport.

## Sportsmanship and Respect

All people in our community need to know that respect is a lifetime value taught through interscholastic activities; it is a principle of good citizenship. By taking this pledge, a person chooses to accept the responsibility for his or her actions, whether as a participant or spectator.

Why do we need to demonstrate respect for each other?

1. To decrease the emphasis on winning or losing.
2. To promote ethics and integrity in all walks of life.
3. To learn the attitudes necessary for responsible behavior.
4. Respect is about the relationship - not the game.

Parent/guardians and student-athletes will acknowledge and sign the CHSAA Respect pledge as stated below in the SVVS Athletic registration forms. Spectators and participants must also follow SVVS Board Policies, especially [KFA](#), when attending school district sponsored events.



## **Student Participant Respect Pledge**

I will focus my actions as a student participant on respecting my opponents, coaches, sponsors, parents, fans and officials. I believe that by demonstrating respect for all people involved in my activity, I am a catalyst for positive interaction among participants in interscholastic activities and athletics.

## **Spectator Respect Pledge**

I will focus my actions as a spectator of high school athletics and activities on respecting all participants, coaches, sponsors, and officials. I believe that by demonstrating respect for all people involved in activity, I am a catalyst for positive interaction among participants and fans of interscholastic activities and athletics. By taking this pledge, I accept the responsibility of serving as a role model for all members of my community.

# **ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION CODE AND CONTRACT**

## **Introduction**

This code of rules, regulations, and procedures shall apply to all district participants in interscholastic and intradistrict athletics. Participants include team members, team managers and cheerleaders.

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide clarity, consistency and fairness in the application of this code. Athletic training regulations are normally more stringent than standard school regulations for several reasons. The desire of the school district is to provide a standard whereby participants can minimize risk factors involving injuries and general well being. Schools and society in general look to participants to demonstrate self-discipline, leadership, moral character and good health habits. Students wishing to participate in athletic programs are required to meet standards of personal behavior and academic performance which are reasonably related to district purposes, including but not limited to insuring that the participant is representative of the community, the district and the school's ideals in matters of academic conduct, sportsmanship and citizenship.

Recognizing the fact that participation in athletic programs is purely voluntary on the part of the student, the participant is accountable for all rules, regulations and procedures set forth in this code.

## **Application of Participation Code**

The St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J reserves the right to amend and revise the Code of Conduct as it is deemed necessary and proper.

Once the acknowledgment is properly signed, the student is subject to this Code of Conduct throughout the year, during all school years in which he or she is eligible to participate. In addition, sanctions may be imposed for serious and substantial violations, occurring at any time during the school year, on or off campus, in or out of season, and where deemed appropriate while school is not in session.

To be eligible to participate in athletic programs a participant must be academically eligible, attend school on a regular basis in accordance with attendance policies, and conform to district and individual school standards of conduct and sportsmanship.

## **I. Rules of Conduct**

The following conduct, regardless of whether it constitutes a single incident or a pattern of activity, shall be grounds for disciplinary action:

- A. Use, possession, sale and/or exchange, regardless of the quantity, of alcoholic beverages, illegal controlled substances (e.g. hallucinogens, marijuana, anabolic steroids, etc.) and tobacco product. Tobacco product means any product that contains nicotine or tobacco or is derived from tobacco and is intended to be ingested or inhaled by or applied to the skin of an individual, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco; and any electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine to the person inhaling from the device, including but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo or pipe.
- B. Willful disobedience or open and/or persistent defiance of authority.
- C. Willful destruction, damage or defacing of any school property or equipment (including athletic equipment).
- D. Behavior which is detrimental to the welfare and safety of others or behavior which could be characterized as lacking proper or good citizenship or good sportsmanship practices. For purposes of this policy, the phrase lacking proper or good citizenship includes, but is not limited to, behavior which is prohibited or punishable by federal, state or local criminal statutes.

### **1. Penalties for Rule Violations**

For any of the above offenses, the following disciplinary action will be taken:

#### ***1st offense:***

Suspension of the participant from 30% (or major fraction thereof) of any athletic contests on the schedule of the sports/activity season. Does not include scrimmages. If a participant should be suspended late in the season and is not able to fulfill the 30 percent penalty, the remaining suspension will extend into post-season play and/or the participants next sports/activity season.

For example, should a participant/team qualify for any post-season play, those contests will be included in the computation of the 30 percent suspension or should a student violate any training rules while not participating in a sport, the suspension will begin with and be computed according to the students next sports season.

Participants are expected to practice during the period of suspension from contests in order to finish a season in good standing and to be eligible for any awards. Participants failing to attend practices are subject to permanent suspension from that sport/activity to the end of the school year.

Recommendation that a restorative process occur prior to reinstatement to competition.

Reduce to 10% with self admission prior to schools knowledge. Must include a minimum of 10 community service hours agreed upon by school administration, parents, coach and athlete and a written timeline for completion. Students without additional violations for one calendar year may be reinstated to no prior offense status. Such reinstatement can occur only once during a students four years of eligibility.

Or students may opt for 20% suspension with no community hours. Students without additional violations for one calendar year may be reinstated to no prior offense status. Such reinstatement can occur only once during a students four years of eligibility.

With no self admission prior to school's knowledge, an athlete will serve the 30% suspension but may participate in an approved educational program with parental participation for a minimum of three one-hour sessions. If the athlete does the educational component and has no additional violations up to one calendar year, the athlete may be restored to no prior offense status.

Such reinstatement can occur only once during a student's four years of eligibility.

### ***2nd offense:***

60% suspension from the regular season of participation or subsequent season if unable to complete. Post season play will count toward the total suspension. Remain in practices and good standing.

Recommendation that a restorative process occur prior to reinstatement to competition. An approved mandatory educational program, with parental participation will be agreed upon by the administration, parents, coach and athlete. Educational program must exceed three one-hour sessions.

### ***3rd offense:***

One calendar year suspension from the date of the infraction with approved educational program mandatory before reinstatement. Administration, parents, coach and athlete will determine terms for reinstatement and educational program.

Penalties for violations beyond the third offense will be at the discretion of the building principal and/or District Athletic Director and may include permanent prohibition from participating in district athletic programs.

Enforcement of any penalty will begin from the day the student is determined to have violated the Rules of Conduct. For purpose of this Code, penalties are cumulative throughout a participant's years of high school eligibility. Penalties accumulate during middle school participation, but do not carry forward to high school.

2. Should a participant transfer to another district high school, any acquired penalties would also transfer.
3. Any violation of the participation code may result in the revoking of any awards for which the participant might otherwise be eligible.



4. The District and administration reserve the right to bypass any or all of the levels of penalties and impose any or all of the more serious levels of penalties if the seriousness of the offense warrants such action.

## **II. Academic Rules**

The St. Vrain Valley Schools recognize that athletics are an important part of a student's educational experience, but that academics are the primary reason for a student attending school. To be academically eligible, see Colorado High School Activities Association General Eligibility Rules, which must be followed by all athletes.

## **III. Attendance Rule**

Because of the importance of regular attendance and academics the following rule regarding attendance will be followed:

To be eligible for practice or competition the participant must be in attendance at least one-half the school day unless arrangements are made in advance for an excused absence. Arrangements must be made at least two days prior to the activity.

## **IV. Miscellaneous**

Nothing contained herein will be deemed to prohibit a coach or sponsor from establishing and enforcing with principal approval additional rules applicable to the particular activity, e.g. curfew hours and other matters relating to the functioning of the team or group.

Such rules are to be provided to participants in writing with a copy on file with the principal/designee.

Violations of such rules may be handled directly by the coach involved after conferring with the District Athletic Director and/or the appropriate building administrator.

If a student's actions are deemed detrimental to the good of the team or program, a coach reserves the right to suspend or remove the student from the team. Any suspension or removal from a team will need athletic director and principal approval.

### **Suspensions From/Quitting a Sport or Activity**

1. Students permanently suspended from a sport will not letter in that sport or participate in another sport during the same season. Any violations of the participation code may result in the revoking of any awards for which the participant might otherwise be eligible.
2. An athlete who quits a sport during its season may try out for another sport that season, provided both head coaches of the sports involved give their consent. If there is disagreement among coaches, the student or coach may request a building administrator to review the case.
3. A student may not participate in practice, scrimmages or contests during the time of any suspension from school.

## V. Disciplinary and Appeal Procedures

1. The principal or designee shall be responsible for the application of penalties and sanctions for violations of the Rules of Conduct set forth in this Code.
2. Prior to the imposition of any penalty set forth in this Code, the principal or designee shall give the student and parent/guardian notice of the intended action. The notice may be oral or in writing at the discretion of the principal or designee will inform the student and parent/guardian of the nature of the alleged violation, the nature of the penalty which may be imposed, and the availability of the principal or designee to meet with the student and parent/guardian to discuss the matter.
3. At the informal hearing, the student will be given an opportunity to deny the alleged violation or to provide his version of the incident. The principal or designee may at his discretion depending upon the circumstances allow the student to present witnesses or hold a more extensive hearing in order to make a proper decision on the contemplated action.
4. Written notice of the penalties shall be made promptly by the building administrator to the participant and his parent/guardian.
5. The student and parent/guardian may appeal the decision of the principal by submitting in writing a request within five (5) days of the decision to the District Athletic Director.

## Assignment of Students to Schools

The St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J Board of Education endorses the neighborhood school concept and encourages students to attend the school located within the designated attendance area of their residence. The Board recognizes, however, that students may wish to attend a school or participate in a program (excluding extracurricular) located in an area other than that of their designated school.

The District shall require students enrolled at charter schools, nonpublic schools and home schools to participate at their school of residence unless activities in which the students wish to participate are not offered at that school. Students may participate at another district school when an activity they choose is not offered at their school of residence. Students must return to their school of residence when that school offers their chosen activity of participation.

Non district students attending charter schools or nonpublic schools must declare their school of participation. In selecting that school, they should choose the one that has the greatest number of activities in which they plan to participate.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, the superintendent or designee may assign students to schools outside of their regular attendance area when the assignment is in the interest of the student's personal, social or educational development. When such an assignment is made, a written educational or behavioral plan will be developed by the receiving school staff, with input from the student and parents, to assist the student in an effective change in school environment. Expectation of responsibilities of all parties involved will be clearly delineated.

## **Open Enrollment**

Students and their parent/guardian shall be notified on an annual basis of the options available through open enrollment in sufficient time to apply.

Students within the designated attendance areas shall have priority in registering in that school. Students may apply for open enrollment in a school outside their attendance area and such applications shall be approved if there is space available in the requested school or program and the application has been submitted in accordance with the regulations accompanying this policy.

Except in cases of unanticipated overcrowding by attendance area students, approved applications for open enrollment shall be valid for attendance at that school throughout the grades served by the school. After leaving the elementary or middle school level, a student must reapply for open enrollment at the next level.

## **Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities**

Students granted permission to attend a school other than the school in their designated attendance area shall have the same curricular and extracurricular status as all other students attending that school, limited only as permitted by law and in accordance with rules of the Colorado High School Activities Association, as amended from time to time.

## **Transportation**

Transportation for students granted permission to attend school outside their designated attendance area will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian except as provided for in district policy.

## **Nondiscrimination**

The Board, the superintendent, other administrators and teachers shall not make any distinction on account of race, color, ethnic group, gender, or religion of any student who may be in attendance or who seeks admission to any school maintained by the district in the determination or recommendation of action under this policy.

## **Special Education Students**

Request from the parent/guardian of special education students for open enrollment or transfer to another school or program shall be considered in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

# Colorado High School Activities Association Constitution and Bylaws

The following information may have changed since this handbook was printed. Please visit the CHSAA website ([chsaanow.com](http://chsaanow.com)) or contact your school's Athletic Department for the most up to date information.

## Article 17 - General Eligibility

### Participation A Privilege

1700

Participation in interscholastic activities as a part of a school's educational program is a privilege and not a right. Students wishing to participate are required to meet standards of personal behavior and academic performance which are related to school purposes. In this regard, the CHSAA and its member schools may exercise the fullest discretion permitted under law.

### General Eligibility Requirements

1710

A student enrolled in a high school shall be eligible to represent that school in CHSAA sanctioned interscholastic activities if the student meets the following specific requirements:

- a. The student is a bona fide undergraduate member of the high school in which he/she is enrolled.

Exception 1 – Home based and other students which meet statutory requirements shall be eligible. Statutory requirements state that a student in a home based education program must be registered with the school district of participation a minimum of 14 days prior to being considered a home schooled student. Students who do not meet statutory requirements shall be considered ineligible for interscholastic competition, but may practice (provided he/she is registered with the school district).

Exception 2 – A student who registers at the beginning of the school year in a nonpublic home-based educational program may participate in the activities program at a public or private school. In the case of a private school, the student must be accepted for inclusion in the school program by the school and meet any criteria set by that private school.

- b. In the judgment of the principal of the student's school he/she is representative of the school's ideals in matters of citizenship, conduct and sportsmanship.
- c. Plan A – During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Academic units of credit as defined by the school's accrediting agency (or school district) per semester and must not be failing more than the equivalent of one-half Academic unit of credit.

Exception - Students who are seniors in their second semester, and are enrolled full time – in at least 4 – 3 college credit approved academic courses, and who do not need additional courses to graduate will be considered full time students and will not need to enroll in additional elective credits to be eligible for participation during that semester.

Academic eligibility shall be determined by a periodic check of the student's grade in progress from the beginning of the grading period for each class, as determined by the policy of the student's school, to the close of the certification day for the interscholastic activity in question.

In all cases, the periods of eligibility and ineligibility must be equal and at no time may the two groups become eligible on the same day. The school must declare when periodic eligibility will be checked (weekly, bi-monthly, monthly or at the quarter).

d. He/She must also have been eligible in accordance with paragraph "c" above at the close of his/her last prior semester of attendance.

1. During the preceding (18 week grading period) semester of attendance, the student must comply with the following:

In Plan A, the student must not have failed more than the equivalent of one-half Carnegie units of credit.

For purposes of eligibility, a semester is considered to begin on the first pupil contact day as defined by the Department of Education, following the completion of the preceding semester. Further, a student will be considered as in attendance if he/she has been enrolled for 15 days or has competed interscholastically at any time during that semester.

2. Regaining Eligibility – Students who have not met the academic requirements at the close of a semester may regain academic eligibility per the table below for the first semester and on the Monday of Week 36 for the second semester.

### **Fall Regain Dates**

The regain day is the Monday of the designated weeks:

Cross Country – Week 10

Softball – Week 9

Football – Week 11

Spirit – Week 11

Boys' Golf – Week 8

Boys' Tennis – Week 10

Gymnastics - Week 11

Volleyball – Week 11

Boys' Soccer – Week 11

Exception - Winter sport athletes who did not meet the eligibility requirements at the start of the first semester and did not participate in a fall sport shall use the Monday of Week 20 (first day of winter practice) to determine if eligibility is regained.

e. The number of credits failed or passed during a semester shall be determined from the student's school transcripts and shall include all classes taken during the semester. Fractional credits awarded or not awarded by the school shall be added at the end of each semester to determine eligibility for the succeeding semester.

If, after credits are totaled, and failing credits total more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  (.50) credit in Plan A, students will not be eligible according to Paragraphs (d) or (e) of CHSAA Article 16, Rule 1710 - General Eligibility.



- f. A student who drops out of school after having been enrolled and in attendance fifteen days will not be eligible the following semester of his/her attendance. If the student attends fifteen days or more during the semester he/she must complete the required number of credits for the whole of that semester to be considered for eligibility during the next semester.

If a student attends a school five days, is absent three days, attends seven additional days, and then drops out, the student is charged with a semester's attendance in that the time is counted from the first day of attendance until his/her last day of enrollment.

- g. Expulsions – A student who would be ineligible in any school because of expulsion, denial of admission or negotiated withdrawal may not become eligible for competition at any level by transferring. The period of ineligibility is determined by the school at which the ineligibility occurred. A transfer at the beginning of the school year does not decrease or eliminate the period of ineligibility caused by the expulsion. A student may not transfer schools to avoid expulsion time periods.

## **Stricter Standards**

### **1720.1**

Participating school districts and schools shall have the right to impose stricter standards for eligibility than those set forth herein. The General Eligibility Requirements are not intended to restrict any school from setting local academic requirements or otherwise exercising control over its curriculum, grading practices and policies regarding the granting of class credit.

#### **1720.11**

It is recommended that schools imposing local standards of eligibility notify participating students of these standards; however, it shall be the student's duty to inform himself/herself as to such standards and to insure that he/she maintains eligibility.

### **1720.2**

Exception to the General Eligibility Requirements shall be made only when specific eligibility rules have been established for a particular activity as a part of the By-laws of the Association. Where specific eligibility rules have been established for a particular activity, and such rules are in conflict with the General Eligibility Rules, the specific rules shall take precedence over the general rules.

## **Make-Up Work**

### **1740.1**

No make-up work shall be permitted after the close of the semester and/or the designated periodic eligibility check for the purpose of becoming eligible; and a "condition" (incomplete, unfulfilled outcome, etc.) shall, for the purpose of determining eligibility, count as a failure.

#### **1740.11**

This rule is pointed directly at the student who, through his/her own lack of effort, fails to pass sufficient work to be eligible for athletics in the succeeding semester, and then asks the opportunity to do make-up work to rectify his/her laxity.

1740.2

Manifest Hardship for Incomplete - A student failing to complete work during the normal semester because of a manifest hardship (injury, illness, or other circumstances beyond his/her control) may be permitted, at the discretion of his/her high school principal, to make up the work within a reasonable time following the student's recovery. A "reasonable time" in most cases would be a like number of days which the student was absent from school. Prior notification must be filed with CHSAA.

1740.3

Dropping out of school for work or financial reasons does not constitute manifest hardship.

## **Summer School**

1750.1

Summer school courses completed after the close of the second semester may be used to replace any Academic units failed. Equivalent courses taken must be accepted by the school toward graduation. The equivalent credits must be completed by the Monday of Week 9 per NFHS calendar. Credits made up through summer school must be in the same curricular area, be accepted to meet graduation requirements of classes previously failed and be recorded on the student's transcript. A class in an area required for graduation may be taken to replace Academic units failed in an elective class.

## **Age**

1770.1

Age Requirements - A student is ineligible to enter interscholastic athletic competition if the date of birth is prior to August 1. The student may not participate in the upcoming school year if he/she reaches the 19th birthday prior to August 1.

1770.11

Exception - A student with a disability may be granted an exception for all or a part of a school year under the following conditions:

- The disability is defined in applicable federal and state law;
  - The disabling condition caused the student to exceed the age requirement;
  - The student experienced a delayed start in his/her educational progression prior to the eighth-grade due to the disabling condition;
1. The Commissioner shall determine if the student meets the requirements for an exception stated above and, if so, upon examination of all documents and consideration of the student's individual circumstances and the purposes for this rule, may grant approval of the exception for any part of the school year. In making this decision, the Commissioner shall consider the student's age, size, and athletic ability, and whether granting the exception would be unfair to other students.
  2. The principal/designee of the school, on behalf of the student, presents a formal request to the Commissioner with all necessary support materials.

Under no condition may approval be granted for participation in more than four seasons in a specific activity or if the student requires an exception to the consecutive or total semester rule.

### 1770.2

Semesters of Attendance – Any student who has attended more than eight semesters (if he/she began high school as a ninth grader) or six semesters (if he/she began high school as a tenth grader) is ineligible for high school athletics, except that a student who is otherwise eligible may complete a season's participation in a winter sport begun in his eighth semester.

### 1770.3

Exception - Exception to Bylaws 1770.1 (age) and 1770.2 (semesters) may be appealed to the Commissioner in cases involving documented hardships supported by evidence acceptable to the Commissioner, the burden of proof to rest with the school requesting the hardship waiver. Waivers cannot be filed for students who are in attendance and have the potential to earn credits, for students who due to illness or injuries are unable to compete but are able to attend school with the potential to earn credits or have failed to earn sufficient credits needed to graduate in eight consecutive semesters due to an expulsion.

## **Physical Examination and Parental Consent**

### 1780.1

No pupil shall participate in formal practice or represent his/her/their school in interscholastic athletics until there is a statement on file with the principal or athletic director signed by his/her/their parents or legal guardian and a practitioner licensed in the United States to perform sports physicals certifying that: (a) he/she/they has passed an adequate physical examination within the past 365 calendar days; (b) that in the opinion of the examining licensed practitioner, he/she/they is physically fit to participate in high school athletics; and (c) that he/she/they has the consent of his/her/their parents or legal guardian to participate.

### 1780.2

Removal for illness or injury – If at any time during participation, a licensed health care provider removes an athlete from participation because of an illness and/or injury, other than a head injury (please see Bylaw 1780.21), the athlete must have a written release from an approved licensed health care provider before participating again.

### 1780.21

Removal for concussion – If at any time during participation (practice or contest), a student-athlete is removed from participation due to concussion, the student-athlete must obtain written permission to start the Return-to-Play protocol from the approved list of licensed health care providers. A school or school district may impose stricter standards.

## **Article 18 - Transfer**

### **Transfer**

### 1800

Colorado School Choice: The CHSAA supports school choice in academic pursuits and encourages its student participants to enhance their academic achievement. In concert with this approach, the Association's philosophy addresses the establishment of a fair playing field for all student athletes. A student entering high school for the first time shall be eligible for all interscholastic athletic competition.

### 1800.1

A student who establishes his/her high school eligibility at any high school and subsequently transfers, will be ineligible for varsity competition for 365 days from the date of their transfer, in the sports they participated in a practice, contest, scrimmage or foundation game during the last 365 days.

### 1800.2

The transfer rule addresses athletic eligibility only as it relates to transfer between schools. Rules related to age, semesters, academic requirements and other CHSAA Bylaws may result in an eligible transfer being declared ineligible.

## **Bona Fide Move**

### 1800.3

A bona fide family move to a residence that requires a transfer to a school in that school's attendance area and/or a new school district, verified by the receiving school, will permit full transfer eligibility.

- a. A bona fide family move means a permanent change in the family's legal place of domicile. The legal place of domicile is that place in which the family's habitation is fixed and in which the student's custodial parent or legal guardian has the present intention to reside permanently. A bona fide family move has not occurred unless and until the student's custodial parent or legal guardian, the student, and the student's family have abandoned the immediately preceding place of domicile and have no present intention to return to that place of domicile.
- b. In determining whether a bona fide family move has occurred, the Commissioner may consider all the circumstances in his discretion. Examples of circumstances that may be relevant include: changes in employment or business activities that require the family to move; family health or other reasons that compelled the family to move; the custodial parents or legal guardian's residence for income tax, voter registration, motor vehicle registration, and similar indicators of legal residence; the terms of ownership or leasing of the new residence; the existence of other family residences; the location of the family's personal property; and the amount of time actually spent at the new residence. These examples are not a complete list of circumstances that the Commissioner may consider, nor is the Commissioner required to give more or less weight to any of these examples in making a decision.
- c. Under no circumstances may a school transfer that is motivated by athletic considerations be considered a bona fide family move. The student shall have the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that athletic participation at the new school was no more than an incidental consideration.
- d. If a student transfers to a school where his/her previous coach is a coach of the current school team, that move will be deemed motivated by athletic consideration. Under provision of this rule, the coach may be a former school coach or a non-school coach. As used in this Rule, the term "coach" includes any person who coaches, volunteers (regardless of compensation) or assists in any capacity with the coaching or training of the school or non-school team.
- e. If the family, directly or indirectly, retains ownership of the former place of domicile after the move, it is presumed that they have not made a bona fide family move, and that presumption must be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.

## Athletic Transfer

### 1800.4

Any transfer substantially motivated by athletic considerations will cause the student to be ineligible for varsity competition for 365 days from the date of the transfer in any sports(s) they participated in during the last 365 days.

Exception: A student transferring, moving or for any reason changing to a new school where the student's non-school coach is also a coach of the school team, is considered to be attending for athletic purposes. The student, as a result of this transfer, will be ineligible for varsity competition for one calendar year from the date of the transfer in any sport(s) they participated in during the twelve months prior to the transfer. As used in this Rule, the term "coach" includes any person who coaches, volunteers (regardless of compensation) or assists in any capacity with the coaching or training of the school or non-school team.

Note: For purposes of this Bylaw and its exceptions, no personal relationship or one-on-one/group coaching or individual contact is required for application of this rule. If a coach has any standing with the outside team/organization/business, that coach is considered a coach of that non-school sports team.

### 1800.41

Sub-Varsity Eligibility - A student will be granted sub-varsity eligibility by the Commissioner upon submittal of a restricted waiver request signed by the principals of the sending and receiving schools. Waivers may be considered based on a student's lack of opportunity to participate at a sub-varsity level.

### 1800.42

Non-Participation - A student who has not participated in an interscholastic practice, scrimmage, or foundation game in a specific sport at any level (varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, and freshman) during the 365 days preceding the date of transfer shall have varsity eligibility at the receiving school in that specific sport at all levels of competition.

### 1800.43

Return to Original School - A student who participates in a sport (practice, scrimmage, contest, foundation game) at School A and subsequently transfers to School B and participates in any sport at School B, will be sub-varsity eligible only upon their return to School A in any sports they have participated in during the last 365 days at either School A or School B.

Note: Participation is defined as an interscholastic practice, contest, scrimmage, or foundation game.

### 1800.44

Broken Home - A student of a broken home will be exempt from the transfer rule for the first move in high school from one parent to the other. Note: The exception will exist only if it is determined by either school that the move is not athletically motivated. A waiver must be filed and approved prior to competition.



1800.46

Transfer Pursuant to IEP - A student who has been identified as a student with a disability who transfers to a member school to comply with a specific requirement in his/her Individualized Education Plan (IEP) has varsity eligibility at the receiving school. A waiver must be filed and approved prior to competition.

Note: The burden of proof for the previous school's failure to meet IEP or educational standards is on the parents/guardians of the transferring student. For example, transcripts, documented meetings, dates with school, staffing or testing.

1800.47

Restricted Varsity Eligibility - The Appeals Committee and/or Commissioner may grant restricted varsity eligibility during the regular season only to a student athlete that transfers to a school without a sub-varsity program/schedule or a senior transfer student participating in their final year of eligibility.

The following regular-season eligibility would be approved through the waiver process.

Fall - Week 12

Winter - Week 27

Spring - Week 40

## **Hardship**

1800.5

When the definition of a hardship has been met, the Commissioner may grant varsity eligibility pursuant to the provisions of Article 25 of these Bylaws.

1800.51

"Hardship" means a situation, condition or event which must impose a severe, non-athletic burden upon the student or his/her family and require a transfer of schools. This does not include the personal or initial choice of enrollment and/or participation. The Commissioner shall have broad discretion in applying this standard to specific cases. He/She/They may take into consideration not only the needs of the student and family directly involved, but also the best interest of member schools and interscholastic athletics/activities generally as he/she understands those interests.

1800.52

All transfer waiver applications shall be processed on forms approved by the CHSAA and in accordance with the following procedures:

- a. A transfer waiver shall first be submitted to the principals /or designees at the student's sending and receiving schools. If either principal /or designees disapproves of the waiver, he/she shall state his/her reasons in writing.
- b. The transfer waiver, with the recommendations of the principals /or designees, shall then be submitted to the receiving school's league for a vote.
- c. The recommendation of the principals /or designees and the league and all other information that the applicant wished to be considered in support of the waiver application shall be submitted in writing to the Commissioner. The burden of proof to establish a hardship shall be upon the applicant.

- d. The Commissioner or his/her designee may conduct additional investigations as he/she deems necessary. The application and any additional information gathered by the Commissioner or his/her designee shall constitute the record of the proceeding. The Commissioner will make a timely written decision based on the information in the record.
- e. The Commissioner's decision may be appealed pursuant to Article 25 of these Bylaws.
- f. The decision of the Commissioner shall be upheld unless it is shown by clear and convincing evidence in the record to be arbitrary or capricious.
- g. Transfer waivers cannot be approved for a school transfer found to be substantially motivated by athletic considerations.
- h. The following situations are not considered under the definition of hardship: reduction or loss of personal income, transportation, undocumented statements of bullying and academic program comparisons.

Note: Circumstances that require an immediate transfer due to safety, legal, court placement or documented availability and plan for academic services must provide adequate documentation. Academic transfers where parents and/or the student don't believe the current school met the student's needs will require a transcript submission and a specialized plan as documented by the administration.

Medical waivers will require a dated timeline of school and parental intervention prior to transfer. Medical letters from outside entities are secondary to a parental timeline that demonstrates communication and/or assessment with school personnel, establishing a plan to address the student's social and/or emotional needs prior to the transfer. This timeline must include meeting dates and the names of school service specialist, such as a counselor, special education personnel, dean, athletic director, crisis management team or other administrators who worked with the parents and student prior to transfer.

Please note medical letters from outside entities requesting varsity eligibility for a student's mental well-being are reviewed as athletic in principle.

1800.53

No transfer waiver may be granted that would cause a student who is ineligible in the sending school to become eligible at the receiving school.

## **Undue Influence - Recruited Students**

1810

A student who transfers schools because of the recruiting efforts of school athletic staff members and/or school representatives of athletic interests (as defined in Article 19 of the Bylaws) shall be declared ineligible for a period of time to be determined by the Commissioner. Such period may exceed one year.

## Article 19 – Recruiting

### Recruiting

#### 1900.1

"Recruiting" means soliciting or encouraging a student to enroll in a school in order to secure that student's participation in an interscholastic athletic program.

#### 1900.2

No school representative shall recruit any student or solicit or encourage any other person to recruit any student. "School representative" includes any person who has a special interest in a school or athletic team, such as a school administrator, coach, assistant coach, other school employee or volunteer, student athlete, parent or family member of a student athlete, school alumnus or booster club member.

Note: Any student – international or domestic – found to be recruited or promoted by a procurer, agent, parent or guardian for attendance at a specific school shall be ineligible for all athletics during their tenure as a student.

#### 1900.3

In the event of a violation, the Commissioner shall impose a penalty upon the offending school and all athletic staff members participating in the violation, up to and including suspension of membership. The Commissioner may also find any student athlete involved to be ineligible to participate.

#### 1900.4

If allegations of recruiting or undue influence are made against a school or coach, the Burden of proof in substantiated form must be borne by the accusing party. Substantiated allegations of recruiting or undue influence will be processed by imposing the penalties established in 1900.3.

#### 1900.5

Eighth Grade Contact - A person, acting in the capacity of the high school coach or serving in a role representing the high school, may have informational meetings anytime with 8th grade students who live in that high school's attendance area as established by the school district, or with those 8th grade students that have pre-registered to attend that high school; the coach may conduct practice with those eighth graders starting May 1. This contact may include currently registered underclassmen and the Sunday Contact rule applies to this contact after May 1.

#### 1900.6

Youth recognition events/games will be defined, for the purpose of setting school protocol, as an event where individual, group or district student participants, of middle-school or younger age are recognized at a CHSAA member school athletic event. Legal and illegal protocols for such events are clearly defined below:

#### Acceptable

- Free admission
- Pre-game, half-time or post-game introductions or announcements with group visibility on field, court, playing arena.
- Groups may be recognized for their participation or involvement in youth activities only.
- Teams or groups invited; must have a logical tie to the high school

## Unacceptable

- Youth on sideline during warm-up game
- Youth in locker room or involved in any activities associated with the team.
- Current players/coaches cannot be involved in recognition or ceremony on any level.
- Youth receiving any merchandise, meals, or school related tokens.
- Youth provided transportation to and from event.
- Illegal contact can result in the sport specific teams' placement on probation/restriction.
- No gifts, food, certificates, school gear, prizes or awards of any kind can be handed out.
- No individual or specific group or team can be singled out at the event separate from the rest of the invitees.

This does not include:

- Regular season ball boys, team managers, etc. are exempt from recognition programs.

## Article 20 – Amateur Standing

### **Amateur Status**

#### 2000.1

The amateur rule applies to those athletic activities which are recognized by the CHSAA as part of the interscholastic program.

#### 2000.11

An amateur athlete is one who participates and competes in sport solely for the physical, mental and social pleasure that comes from playing a sport.

#### 2000.12

An essential condition of CHSAA athletic eligibility is that a student-athlete must maintain his/her/their amateur status. He/she/they may not compete for or accept cash for playing some part or all aspects of a sport. An amateur may not sign a professional contract or play with/against professionals.

Note: A professional is defined as being paid in any form for playing in an athletic contest, or if you sign a contract or verbally commit with an agent or professional sports organization.

#### 2000.2

Name, Image & Likeness - Student Athletes will be prohibited from monetizing their name, image and likeness with the use of their school's uniform, equipment, logo, name, proprietary patents, products and/or copyrights associated with a CHSAA member school either in public, print or social media platforms.

Note: A student - athlete forfeits their amateur status in a sport by signing a professional playing and/or endorsement contract of monetary value or other compensation.

## Awards

### 2010.1

Student-athletes participating in any CHSAA sanctioned interscholastic athletic activities sponsored and/or approved by the Association shall only accept award(s) that have no intrinsic value and cost less than \$100, exclusive of engraving. The student-athlete may accept meals, lodging, transportation and merchandise for participating in a non-CHSAA sanctioned sport or event, as determined by the national governing body of that sport.

Exception: A corporate entity, restaurant, or other vendor that is not associated with the school(s) may provide an award for players on one or more teams that exceeds the \$100 limit.

Exception 2: Student-athletes may fundraise for personal items that exceed the \$100 limit.

Note: Student - athletes, as a representative of a member school, when receiving CHSAA individual awards or team trophies during post-season events including championships, must wear school approved apparel.

### 2010.11

If unapproved awards are offered and accepted by the participants, such participants shall jeopardize their eligibility to represent their school in any interscholastic activity, and further, penalties may ensue as determined by the Commissioner.



## Outside Competition

### Article 21 – Outside Competitive/Practice

#### 2100.1

Definition Sports Season - A sports season begins with the first formal practice session as established in the CHSAA by-laws and ends with the final state championship in that sport.

#### 2100.11

Exception: The sports season ends for a member of a high school athletic team on the day following the completion of his or her school's competition at the level at which the student competes.

#### 2100.2

Players certified to participate as members of any high school sport team may compete on any other team, in any non-school activity or event in that sport during that sports season with the express written permission of the principal. Permission shall be granted if:

- a. the student's class attendance is not compromised; and
- b. the student is in good academic standing under the school's activities policy applicable to all students.

#### 2100.21

Member Defined - Member is defined as a student who reports out for formal practice and is actively in contention for a berth on the team; or a student who has been certified to another school as eligible to participate in an interscholastic activity; or a student who has been issued the necessary equipment for game competition. A student ceases to be a member when he/she is cut from the team.

#### 2110

Practice with Outside Group - Members of any high school sport team may not practice with any non-school group without prior approval of the high school principal.

Note: This is not to be construed to allow non-school people to participate in school practices or scrimmages.

#### 2120

Violation Outside Competition Rule - Any student who does so participate in violation of By-law 2100.2 shall be ineligible to participate in a specific or all interscholastic athletic activities for a period of time to be determined by the Commissioner.

# **St. Vrain Valley Schools High School Varsity Lettering Guidelines**

## **General Guidelines**

1. No awards of any kind other than awards by the school, the Association, or a group approved by the school or the Association and limited in value to \$50 shall be made to participants in any interschool activity.
2. If unapproved awards are offered and accepted by the participants, such participants shall jeopardize their eligibility to represent their school in any interschool activity; and, further, such acceptance shall jeopardize standing of the school in the Association and may result in the suspension of the school (CHSAA policy).
3. Only letter awards are given to the varsity athlete by the school.
4. Only one athletic letter (cloth emblem) may be given to a participant during a high school career. (Others may be purchased.)
5. An athlete must be eligible under all rules of the CHSAA.
6. An athlete must be academically eligible according to district and state requirements.
7. Service Letter Awards: A senior who has completed three or more seasons without earning a letter may be recommended by the coach to be awarded a varsity letter.
8. Hardship Letter Award:
  - A. Any athlete who is injured or ill, and who, in the opinion of the coach, would have earned an award had the injury or illness not occurred may be awarded a letter.
  - B. If because of illness or death in the family an athlete is forced to discontinue competition and has not earned a letter, the coach may consider this athlete for an award.
9. Manager's Letter Award: A coach may recommend a manager for exemplary service for two years in the same sport or one year in two sports. The service award may also be applied to managers. Their letter award will be a regular varsity letter.
10. Head coaches shall review annually their record keeping procedures with any individuals delegated such responsibilities. Accurate record keeping shall be stressed.
11. A coach may establish lettering guidelines more stringent than the district guidelines, provided:
  - A. They are approved by the principal and athletic director before the season begins.
  - B. Acknowledgment of guidelines are signed by the parents and student and on file in the athletic director's office prior to the student being allowed to practice and compete.
12. Lettering requirements are to be on file with the building athletic director and principal.
13. At the end of a season, an athlete must return all school equipment (e.g. uniform) before a letter will be awarded.
14. The final decision of athletes having met the lettering requirements lies with the building principal following recommendation and consultation with coaches and athletic directors.

# **INDIVIDUAL SPORT GUIDELINES FOR LETTERING IN HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SPORTS**

## **Baseball**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of the total innings played of the regular season varsity games.
2. Exception: Pitchers shall play in one-third of the total innings played of the regular season.
3. An athlete who competes in a state play-off game may be recommended for a letter.

## **Basketball**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of the quarters of all regular season varsity games.
2. An athlete who competes in a state tournament game may be recommended for a letter.

## **Cross Country**

1. Run in all races as a varsity runner (either as a top 5 team member or in the open division). This would be at the discretion of the coach.
2. Place in the top half of a major race (12 teams or more).
3. An athlete who competes in the state meet may be recommended for a letter.

## **Football**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of the quarters of the designated number of quarters in the regular season varsity games.
2. Quarters played in state play-off games may be counted in the foregoing minimum.
3. An athlete who competes in a state play-off game may be recommended for a letter.

## **Golf**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the designated number of holes in a regular season varsity matches.
2. An athlete who competes in the state tournament may be recommended for a letter.

## **Gymnastics**

1. A gymnast must accumulate 10 points in varsity scheduled meets in order to earn a letter. An athlete receives one point for every event entered in a varsity meet. Additional letter points are accumulated by "placing" in events at meets during the season.
2. A gymnast who qualifies and competes in the state meet may be recommended for a letter.

## **Lacrosse**

1. Play in one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the halves of the regular season varsity games.
2. Halves played in a state playoff game may be counted in the foregoing minimum.
3. An athlete who competes in the state tournament may be recommended for a letter.

## **Soccer**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the halves of all regular season varsity matches.
2. Halves played in state play-off games may be counted in the foregoing minimum.
3. An athlete who competes in a state play-off game may be recommended for a letter.

### **Softball (girls)**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of the total innings played of the regular season varsity games.  
Exception: Pitchers shall play in one-third of the total innings played of the regular season.
2. An athlete who competes in a state play-off game may be recommended for a letter.

### **Spirit**

1. Lettering requirements are determined by the school.
2. Participants must end the season in good standing.

### **Swimming**

1. An athlete must earn a total of 20 points by placing in varsity swim meets throughout the season;  
or
2. Place in the top 6 at the conference meet in an individual event.
3. An athlete who qualifies and competes in the state meet may be recommended for a letter.

### **Diving**

1. Participate in 85% of the scheduled practices. Note: Participation in scheduled practices means the full scheduled period for persons participating in diving only, and a minimum of 50% of the scheduled period for persons who swim and dive when the two practice periods coincide. If the two practice periods do not coincide, the individual is expected to attend the full diving period.
2. Accumulate a minimum of 10 meet points in diving.

### **Tennis**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of all regular season varsity matches.
2. An athlete who competes in the state tournament may be recommended for a letter.

### **Track & Field**

1. An athlete must earn an average of one (1) point per scheduled meet excluding the state meet; or
2. Earn one (1) full point in a major meet of 10 or more teams (2A or 3A), 7 or more teams (4A or 5A), or state qualifying meet.
3. An athlete who qualifies and competes in the state meet may be recommended for a letter.

### **Unified Bowling**

1. An athlete who competes in one (1) event.
2. An athlete who competes in a state tournament may be recommended for a letter.

### **Volleyball**

1. An athlete shall play in one-half of the games of all regular season varsity matches.
2. An athlete who competes in a state tournament game may be recommended for a letter.

### **Wrestling**

1. An athlete shall wrestle in one-half of all regular season varsity matches.
2. An athlete who competes in the state tournament may be recommended for a letter.

## **ADMINISTRATORS GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ATHLETIC FEE ASSESSMENT**

The following represents the guidelines to be followed for the athletic/Speech and Debate fee assessments. Please contact your Director of Athletics for any interpretation of these guidelines.

1. Participation fee for athletics will be:
  - \$150.00 for the first sport
  - \$150.00 for the second sport
  - \$120.00 for the third sport
  - Family maximum will be \$500.00 per year.
2. Participation fees for speech and debate will be \$120.00.
3. Participation fees for cheerleading will be \$30.00.
4. Fees will be collected at each school. They will be collected at the time of registration or in the school office at which time a receipt is to be given.
5. The student fee is to be paid or adjusted prior to a participant being involved in the athletic program. Students or families with financial need may request payment plans or work/study information from their building athletic director.
6. A coach is not to allow a student to participate in any practice or game without notification of approved participation status (completed registration forms, valid medical screening and fee payment).
7. Participants who are cut or who quit an activity up to and including the fifteenth calendar day from a participant's first day of practice will be reimbursed the full amount. Requests for the reimbursement must be no later than 25 calendar days after this beginning date. Participants who are members through 15 calendar days following this beginning date will not be reimbursed if they choose to drop out of the program.





# St. Vrain Storm

