

SHERBURNE-EARLVILLE

Central School District



Student-Athlete Handbook

2022-2023

SECSO STUDENT-ATHLETE HANDBOOK

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I. PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics in the Sherburne-Earlville Central School District is viewed as an extension of the classroom and, therefore, is an integral part of the district's total educational program. Athletics should be a broadening experience in which the harmony of mind and body function is created. This valued experience should be offered to as many students as possible. A well-coordinated program is vitally important to the morale of our school and our community.

Everyone involved in the delivery of athletics possesses a unique opportunity to teach positive life skills and values. Therefore, this educational experience demands highly qualified coaches. Desire, dedication and self-discipline need to be developed to ensure the commitment and personal sacrifice required by student-athletes. Making such a commitment helps to nurture integrity, pride, loyalty, and overall character. The final outcome is better citizens carrying these values throughout their lives.

It is the nature of athletic competition to strive for victory. However, the number of victories is only one criteria when determining a season's success. Guiding the team to attain maximum potential is the ultimate goal. To this end, the coaching staff must teach student-athletes to prepare their minds and bodies to reach maximum potential, and then to be modest in victory and steadfast in defeat.

1. Modified Philosophy

This program is available to all students in grades seven and eight. Sport activities offered are determined by the existence of student interest and the relationship to the High School program. At this level, the focus is on learning athletic skills, game rules, fundamentals of team play, social and emotional growth, physiologically appropriate demands on the adolescent body, and healthy competition. The number of teams and the size of each team will be determined by the availability of financial resources, qualified coaches, suitable indoor or outdoor facilities, and a safe environment.

For the desired development of an adolescent and the team to occur, practice sessions are vital. The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) publishes regulations by which practice sessions are governed. Learning the "team" concept is crucial, and a commitment to attend practices and games is expected. Keep in mind that practices and games are often scheduled for Saturdays. Opportunities for meaningful contest participation for each team member will exist over the course of a season.

Exceptional seventh- and eighth-graders may be permitted to try out for a Junior Varsity or Varsity team under the New York State Education Department program called "Selection Classification." The Varsity coach initiates this process. Criteria must be met to play at an advanced level, including parental approval,

medical approval, appropriate developmental rating, passing athletic performance test scores, and the coach's skill evaluation. Additionally, students must display an advanced degree of social and emotional maturity before team membership is granted.

2. Junior Varsity Philosophy

The Junior Varsity level is intended for those who display the potential of continued development into productive Varsity level performers. Although team membership varies according to the structure of each program, Freshmen and Sophomores occupy the majority of roster positions. In certain situations, Juniors who are expected to make contributions at the Varsity level will be considered for Junior Varsity participation. Also, Middle School students who have satisfied all Selection Classification requirements may hold roster spots on Junior Varsity teams.

At this level, athletes are expected to have visibly committed themselves to the program, team and continued self-development. To this end, increased emphasis is placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, and elements and strategies of team play, in addition to social and emotional development. Junior Varsity programs work toward achieving a balance between continued team/player development and striving for victory. The outcome of the contest becomes a consideration at this level.

The realization that practice sessions are important is a premise that is vital to a successful Junior Varsity team and player. For all team members, meaningful contest participation will exist over the course of a season. However, a specified amount of playing time is never guaranteed. Participants at this level are preparing themselves for a six-day a week commitment that is expected at the Varsity level. While contests and practices are rarely held on holidays and Sundays, practice sessions are scheduled during school vacation periods. With the goal of becoming a Varsity student-athlete clearly in sight, a high level of dedication and commitment is expected at the Junior Varsity level.

3. Varsity Philosophy

Varsity competition is the culmination of each sports program. Normally, seniors and juniors make up the majority of the roster. Occasionally, sophomores and freshmen may be included on a Varsity team, providing that evidence of advanced levels of physical development, athletic skill and appropriate social and emotional development are demonstrated. Although rare, it is possible for a Middle School student to be included on a Varsity roster. Selection Classification occurs more frequently in sports where advancing to postseason competition can be based on individual achievement rather than team success (i.e. track, swimming, etc.).

Squad size at the Varsity level is limited. The number of participants on any

given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play the contest. It is vital that each team member has a role and understands its importance. The number of roster positions is relative to the students' acceptance of their individual roles in pursuit of the team's goals. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time at the Varsity level is never guaranteed.

A sound attitude and advanced level of skill are prerequisites for a position on a Varsity team, as is the realization that a Varsity sport requires a six-day a week commitment. This commitment is often extended into vacation periods for all sports seasons. The dedication and commitment needed to conduct a successful Varsity program needs to be taken seriously.

The Varsity coach is the leader of that sport's program and determines the system of instruction and strategy. Communication among the Modified, Junior Varsity and Varsity programs is the responsibility of the Varsity coach. Preparing to win, striving for victory in each contest and working to reach the group's and individual's maximum potential are worthy the goals of a Varsity level team.

Note: Please be advised that cuts are possible for all programs at all levels.

II. ATHLETIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Participation

To be a member of a team, potential student-athletes are selected from the general eligibility requirements established by the NYSPHSAA. Members must, in addition to Sherburne-Earlville regulations, abide by the misconduct policy established by NYSPHSAA and Section III.

All student-athletes and person(s) in parental relation must read the following guidelines and sign the Athletic Code of Conduct. Students may not participate until the original Athletic Code of Conduct is returned to the appropriate coach.

2. Changing Sports

The deadline for participation in a sport is five (5) days after the start of the first day of practice. Students may change from one sport to another, provided they have received permission from the coaches involved and the Athletic Director. Student-athletes who have been cut from one team are permitted to try out for another as long as final cuts have not been made for the second sport. Student-athletes must understand that practices are sport-specific and cannot count from one sport to another. Those who quit after five (5) days do not complete the season in good standing.

3. Practices and Games

A schedule for practices and games will be established and distributed to student-athletes. Every effort will be made to adhere to this schedule. Student-athletes who are present for a school day must attend the same day's practice/game unless they report to the coach and are excused before the practice/game.

4. Absences

It is understood that student-athletes who are placed on a team roster are making a commitment to that team for the entire season. Therefore, all participants are expected to attend and be on time for all practices and games. Failure to attend will be addressed by the coach and may result in suspension.

The "if" list:

- **If** you are illegally absent for all or part of a school day, you may not participate that day. Student-athletes must arrive to school before 11:00 a.m. to be eligible to participate in sports later that same day.
- **If** you are serving an in-school long-term suspension or an out-of-school suspension, you are ineligible to participate during the days of suspension.
- **If** you are excused from physical education classes for medical reasons, you are also excused from participating in practices and games for the same duration as the written excuse. If, however, the excuse was written for a reason that does not affect participation in a specific sport, you may be eligible to participate.

The Building Principal or Athletic Director has the right to review any absence and issue a decision regarding a student-athlete's eligibility to participate on the day in question.

5. School-Sanctioned Programs, Trips, Family Vacations

There are numerous educational opportunities for students in our school system. The Athletic Department supports school-sanctioned programs and trips, but also realizes that student-athletes may miss substantial amounts of practice time. This affects personal conditioning and team chemistry. Student-athletes who miss practices or competitions for any reason may have their position or playing time adjusted. Coaches, parents and athletes have a responsibility to each other to plan, and should communicate far in advance of each sport season when considering participation in school-sanctioned programs or trips. An individual student who attempts to participate in too many activities will undoubtedly be in a position of conflicting obligations. The Athletic Department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in school activities and, to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize

conflict. Athletes and parents/guardians must realize that schedules cannot always be changed because of league regulations, section regulations, or facility usage.

Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This includes limiting participation in activities that may conflict with sports and immediately notifying the coach(es) if a conflict arises (not on the day of the conflict).

6. Issuing of School Clothing and Equipment

It is the responsibility of the student-athlete to take care of all clothing and equipment issued during the season and to return everything to the coach in reasonable condition.

If a student-athlete loses school/team equipment, a replacement cost will be charged. Those who fail to return equipment will be deemed ineligible to compete in any sport or receive athletic awards until the equipment is returned or the replacement cost is paid.

All athletic equipment is to be kept in team rooms or on hangers in the equipment room.

Students are prohibited from wearing school-issued athletic equipment during physical education classes as it is for athletic use only.

The cleaning of one's own equipment is a must. Some items will be washed at school, but others must be taken home. Check with your coach for the proper procedure.

III. CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

At the beginning of each sports season (Fall, Winter and Spring), student-athletes and their parents/guardians will be required to sign the "Agreement for Participation" and "Acknowledgement of the Interscholastic Athletic Handbook/Code of Conduct." The commitment of parents/guardians is essential in this process. This handbook outlines the rules and regulations by which each student-athlete must abide by while participating on a Sherburne-Earlville sports team. The Code of Conduct addresses students' behavior in the school, community and athletic arena; sportsmanship; academics; use of athletic equipment; and training and conditioning requirements.

The Athletic Code of Conduct commits the athlete to many responsibilities and must be signed and turned in to the coaching staff prior to the first practice. If the Athletic Code of Conduct is not turned in on time, the athlete will not be allowed to participate.

1. Conduct of Athletes

Student-athletes represent the school in a special way, so they are required to maintain a high standard of conduct everywhere – in and out of school, on and off the playing field, as a host or guest, and in all community activities.

Team cooperation and self-discipline are essential ingredients for a successful team effort. The athletic administrator may temporarily or permanently suspend or dismiss a team member for failing to maintain this high standard of conduct.

- Good conduct in and out of school
 - General citizenship
 - Conforms to school regulations
- Obtain sufficient rest
 - Keep responsible hours
 - Follow guidelines from coaches and parents/guardians

2. Code of Behavior

Because the use of alcohol and other drugs prevent the normal development of a healthy mind and body, the following code of behavior has been established:

- No student-athlete will possess or consume alcoholic beverages at any time or place during the sport season.
- No student-athlete will possess, sell, or use illegal drugs at any time during the sport season.
- No student-athlete will use prescription drugs without the consent of a physician and/or parent/guardian at any time during the sport season.
- No student-athlete will possess or consume any tobacco products at any time or any place during the sport season.

3. Suspensions

The first confirmed violation of the code of behavior in relation to use, possession, or sale of tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs will result in the following:

- A suspension of twenty percent (20%) of the regular season contest. Suspension is immediate and consecutive. Scrimmages are not considered contests.
- The athlete is required to attend all practices with the team but cannot participate in any contests or scrimmages. Participation in regular team practices will be at the coach's discretion. Travel to away games during the suspension period will be at the discretion of the coach and the athletic administrator.

- Referral will be made to the Drug Abuse prevention counselor.

The second confirmed violation of the code of behavior in relation to use, possession, or sale of tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs will result in the following:

- A suspension up to three (3) months. Parents will be encouraged to work cooperatively with the school district to identify proactive steps to address the violation. Counseling and/or other support services may be utilized for second violations.
- This will impact a student-athlete finishing a season in good standing.
- A meeting with the Athletic Administrator, parents/guardians and the student-athlete must occur before reinstatement of the student-athlete.

The third confirmed violation of the code of behavior in relation to use, possession, or sale of tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs will result in the following:

- Suspension from all athletic competition for one (1) full year from the date of the violation.

4. Procedures for Enforcement

Once an infraction of the athletic code of behavior is confirmed, the Athletic Administrator will notify the athlete of the suspension, then will notify the parents/guardians and set a date for re-entry.

5. Appeals Process

Athletes who are suspended from participation may appeal to the Athletic Board of Review, which consists of the Superintendent, Principal and Athletic Administrator. To appeal a suspension, the athlete must submit a written request for an appeals hearing to the Athletic Administrator. The letter must state the specific reason for the appeal.

6. Season in Good Standing

Any student-athlete who is suspended from a team for rule violations and is not reinstated before the end of the season shall not receive any athletic awards for that sport and may be ineligible to participate in the next season. Those who are academically ineligible at the end of the season are ineligible for a letter.

A student-athlete failing to finish a season in good standing must discuss the problem with the coach of the sport in question and the Athletic Director before being allowed to participate on another team.

IV. TRANSPORTATION

Student-athletes will travel to and from all activities with their team unless prior permission has been obtained from the Athletic Administrator, High School Principal and Coach to travel with their parents/guardians. **It is understood that if permission is granted, only parents/guardians are allowed to transport the athlete.** No other family members, friends, etc., may transport a student-athlete.

Team members are responsible to their coach or supervisor for their behavior on buses. They are expected to abide by the regulations posted in each bus and to act respectfully at all times. Common courtesy requires that team members remove any refuse accumulated on a bus trip (glass containers are prohibited on a bus). **The District assumes NO liability for any personal items left in the aisles or on the bus when unattended.**

All participants are expected to remain on the host school grounds at away events in the Fall and Spring, and to remain in the host school building during the Winter. A late bus for student-athletes is provided Monday-Friday throughout each sport season. The pick-up point is by the flagpole at the front of the building. The bus will pick up athletes and leave from the High School at 5:15 p.m.

V. SPORT-SPECIFIC RULES

To participate on any Interscholastic Athletics Team, student-athletes must agree to follow the particular rules for the specific team (i.e. not to supersede their rules and regulations) and the instructions given by the coach of the team while under the coach's supervision. All student-athletes are expected to attend all practices, meetings and games unless prior notice is given to the coach and an excused absence is granted.

VI. NYSPHSAA

New York State Public High School Athletic Association regulations state that a student must be enrolled in physical education to participate in athletics.

1. Sportsmanship and Fair Play

One of the goals of the Interscholastic Athletic Department, the League, the Section, and the State is to make the athletic experience a positive one for the athletes, parents/guardians, and others who choose to watch our teams perform. To achieve that goal, we must all work together and support each other. Spectators, student-athletes and coaches must recognize that their conduct plays an important role in establishing the reputation of their school and that positive interactions can directly relate to the success of their teams.

2. Transfer Rules

This rule was established by the NYSPHSAA to control athletic recruitment and athletic shopping.

- a. Students who transfer with a corresponding change in residence of their parents/guardians (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months) shall become eligible after starting regular attendance in the second school. A residence change must involve a move from one school district to another. Furthermore, when a student moves from one public school district to another public school district, for athletic eligibility, the student must enroll in the public school district where their parents/guardians reside.
- b. A student who transfers without a corresponding change in residence of his/her parents (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months) is ineligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic contest in a particular sport for a period of one year if the student participated in that sport at the JV or Varsity level during the one year period immediately preceding his/her transfer.

Exemptions:

- Students who reach the age of majority and establish residency in a district;
- Students who transfer to another private/parochial school in the event their current private/parochial school ceases to operate (otherwise, must enroll in public school district where parents/guardians reside);
- Students who are wards of the court or state and are placed in a district by court order (guardianship does not fulfill this requirement);
- Students from divorced or separated parents who move into a new district with one of the aforementioned parents (allowed once every six months).

Note: It is provided, however, that each school shall have the opportunity to petition the section involved to approve a transfer without penalty based on an undue hardship for the student.

3. Selection and Classification

The “Selection Classification” program is a process for screening student-athletes to determine their readiness to compete in interscholastic athletic competitions by evaluating their physical maturity, fitness and skill. The intent of this program is to provide for student-athletes in Grades 7-12 the opportunity to safely participate at an appropriate level of competition based on readiness rather

than age and grade. This program has been designed to assess physical maturation, physical fitness and skill so the student-athlete may be placed at the proper level of competition, which should result in increased opportunity, a fairer competitive environment, reduced injury, and greater personal satisfaction.

The Varsity coach in each sport, in consultation with the student-athlete's Athletic Director and Physical Education Instructor, recommends individuals to be selectively classified. In addition to the criteria mentioned, the social and emotional maturity of each student-athlete is carefully assessed, especially in situations where student-athletes are attempting to participate on an advanced level. Once moved to an advanced level, the student-athlete falls under the eligibility policies and procedures of the High School.

4. Code of Ethics

It is the duty of all concerned with High School athletics to:

- Emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play;
- Eliminate all possibilities that tend to destroy the best values of the game;
- Stress the values derived from playing the game fairly;
- Show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials;
- Establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts;
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials;
- Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility;
- Encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by players on the team;
- Recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well-being of the individual players;
- And remember that an athletic contest is only a game, not a matter of life or death for a player, coach, school, fan or community.

5. Student Eligibility

Age and Grade: According to the Commissioner of Education Regulations, a pupil shall be eligible for Senior High School athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the ninth grade and prior to graduation, except as otherwise provided in the Selection/Classification Program. The Selection/Classification Program permits pupils in Grades 7-8 to compete in Senior High School competition provided they meet the standards of this program. A pupil shall be eligible for inter-school competition in grades 7, 8, 9,10, 11 and 12 until his/her 19th birthday. A pupil who

attains the age of 19 on or after July 1 may continue to participate during that school year in all sports.

Amateur: A student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport shall be an amateur in that sport. An amateur is one who engages in athletic competition solely for the pleasure of the activity and for the benefits derived from participation. An athlete forfeits amateur status in a sport by:

- Competing for money or other compensation (travel, meals, lodging, etc);
- Receiving an award or prize of monetary value that has not been approved by NYSPHSAA (only awards/prizes less than \$50 value may be approved);
- Capitalizing on athletic fame by receiving money and gifts of monetary value (scholarships to higher institutions are exempted);
- Signing a professional contract in that sport.

Assumed Name: Participating under an assumed name in any athletic contest shall make the student-athlete ineligible in that sport for one year from the date of violation.

Bona Fide Students: A contestant must be a bona fide student of the High School represented and must be taking at least four subjects, including physical education.

College: A student is no longer eligible to represent the school in that sport in that season if the student participates in practice or competition with or against any college athletic squad.

All-Star Contests: The only All-Star contests that an athlete may participate in are Exceptional Senior Athlete Contests that are approved by the NYSPHSAA. Only seniors who have completed their eligibility in that sport may compete in these contests. A contestant may participate in no more than one approved Exceptional Senior Athlete Contest in the same sport during the school year.

6. Misconduct Policy

The Section III Athletic Council has established the following policy because it believes that the purpose of interscholastic athletics is to help promote sportsmanship and also believes that coaches and athletes should be setting examples by their behavior.

Coaches and Players: Any school whose coach or player is ejected from an interscholastic competition for having used profanity, engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct or physically assaulting an official shall be sanctioned for such conduct on the part of such coach or player in the following manner:

- Any member of a squad ruled out of a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul shall not participate in

that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation.

- Any member of a squad who strikes, shoves, kicks, spits on, or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate another person (e.g. coach, another player, fan, official) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section, not to exceed one year from the date of the offense.
- “Member of a squad” includes players, managers, scorekeepers, timers, and statisticians.

Any player or coach cited for misconduct that occurs before or after the contest is played shall subject the school to the same penalties imposed where a player or coach is ejected during the game.

Although multiple acts may be cited as evidence of the offense, for purposes of the sanctions, no more than one offense shall be deemed to have occurred in any one game – except that if a coach or player is ejected from a contest by an official for unsportsmanlike conduct, any continuation of such unsportsmanlike conduct or profanity following ejection may represent additional offense.

VII. MEDICAL INFORMATION

1. Risk Factor in Sports

Participation by a student in athletic activities involves a certain degree of risk of physical injury. Such physical injury can occur in any type of activity, be it a “contact” or “non-contact” sport. Further, many injuries are truly accidental in nature and by volunteering to participate in a school-sponsored athletic activity, students and their parents/guardians assume the risks for injuries to occur.

2. Becoming Medically Certified

Student-athletes must be medically cleared BEFORE beginning practice each season through physical examinations. Whether completed by a family physician or the school physician, physicals are considered current for 12 continuous months. Student-athletes are required to obtain new physicals if the previous physical date expires before or during the upcoming sport season.

3. Sports Physicals

Student-athletes who participate in interscholastic athletic competition must receive adequate health examinations and health history updates (interview) when required and may not practice or participate without the approval of the school medical officer. Medical examinations are scheduled in June of each school year

and shall be valid for a period of 12 continuous months. Should a student miss the examination date, they may make an appointment with the school physician's office for a medical examination.

The school district pays for examinations performed by the school physician. The school will not pay for an examination performed by a family doctor. In either case, both the Athletic Health History and Medical Examination Forms must be completed prior to participation.

Students and parents must realize that a health history update must be completed at the beginning of each new sport season (Fall, Winter, Spring).

4. Injuries

It is extremely important to immediately report student-athlete injuries to their coaches. An accident form must be filled out with the coach for all injuries. The school nurse will receive this report from the coach. Medical expenses resulting from any injury must first be submitted to your own insurance carrier. Any remaining balance can be submitted to the school's accident insurance carrier by processing a claim form, which can be obtained from the school nurse.

Note: The school's accident insurance provides only excess coverage according to a schedule of benefits at reasonable and customary rates.

5. Returning to an Athletic Team after an Injury or Illness

Student-athletes who are seen by a doctor must be released (signed statement) by the doctor that treated an injury or illness to resume participation with their team. Those who seek care at an emergency room must obtain the release (written) before leaving the hospital because many times the attending physician may not be there the next time you visit. ***This release must be filed with the school nurse.*** It is the student-athlete's responsibility to get the release to the school nurse; do not leave this responsibility to another person (coach, teacher, friend, etc.).

Any student-athlete missing five (5) consecutive days of school due to an injury or illness **MUST** have a release form signed by the doctor before returning to the practice field. Should there be any question concerning the decision about a student-athlete's participation due to illness or injury, the final decision will be made by the school physician.

6. Benefits of Conditioning

The obvious benefit of conditioned athletes is the potential for the team or individual to compete at the highest possible level. A well-conditioned team is usually a successful team. However, the real benefits of conditioning are long term. Simply, we want our athletes to be exercisers for life. The health benefits derived from a regular exercise program are well-documented. Developing life-long habits to improve or maintain cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and

endurance, and flexibility is an important goal for anyone involved in our athletic program. With this philosophy, one can understand why practice sessions are considered as important as the contests, themselves.

7. Registration

Online registration will open thirty (30) days before the start of a sports season. All student-athletes must register online with FamilyID. Parents/guardians and student-athletes must complete the entire online form and electronically sign all areas requiring such. The student-athlete will still need a current physical and concussion testing, which will be verified with the school nurse. Student-athletes and parents/guardians will receive an email notification accepting them to play.

VIII. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICIES

The Sherburne-Earlville Central School District recognizes that academic success should be the goal of all students. The purpose for attending school is to receive an education. As a student-athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to ensure acceptable grades.

1. High School Eligibility Policy

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and promote student achievement and set guidelines for student eligibility for school sponsored extracurricular activities and sports.

In the High School, a student with two failures in a five-week marking period is placed on probation. A high school student with two failures in two consecutive five-week periods will become ineligible. When high school students become ineligible, they cannot participate in any extracurricular activity or sport for the next five-week marking period. Any student who fails three subjects or more becomes ineligible for the next five-week marking period. At the conclusion of the five-week period, grades would be revisited and the high school student with one failure or no failures would become eligible again. Coaches and advisors reserve the right to curtail participation if the student is failing a class.

Procedures: Students who are failing two subjects in a five-week period are placed on probation and a letter will be sent to parents/guardians by the principal. Students failing any two subjects again after the next five weeks (or failing three during any five-week period) will be ineligible for the following five-week period. A letter will then be sent home by the principal to inform the parents/guardians that their child has become ineligible for the next five weeks.

Note: The determination of failing grades is based on five-week and 10-week marking periods throughout the year, NOT final grades. At the end of the school year, a student could be on probation or ineligible based on fourth-quarter grades. If the student is deemed ineligible at that time, he/she will begin the next school

year with that status (which prohibits participation in fall sports and extracurricular activities that may begin in the summer). This status can only be changed if the student successfully completes summer school. Passing the courses with a passing final grade does not make the student eligible; the student must complete summer school to be eligible to participate in fall sports or activities.

After each five-week period, the main office will generate a list of students who are on probation and/or ineligible to participate in sports and extracurricular activities. The list will be distributed to faculty, coaches and club advisors. It is the responsibility of the coaches and advisors to check the list to be sure only eligible students are participating during any five-week period.

2. Middle School Eligibility Policy

The purpose of this policy is to encourage and promote student achievement and set guidelines for student eligibility in school sponsored extracurricular activities and sports. This policy applies to all students in Grades 6, 7 and 8.

Student grades will be checked, via Power School, at each five-week point throughout the school year. The Middle School Office will be responsible for generating this report.

At each five-week point, any student who is failing two or more core classes (Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science, French or Spanish) will be required to attend study table for five weeks. Students failing two subjects will be required to attend two nights per week; three subjects will be required to attend three nights per week; and four or more subjects will be required to attend four nights per week. Study table will run from 3-4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Students will be allowed to attend clubs, practice, or games, etc., after their assigned study table is complete.

While in study table, the student must cooperate with all rules and productively complete assigned class work and homework. Students who attend their assigned study table and follow the rules described above will be considered eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and sports. Students who do not attend their assigned study table, behave inappropriately or fail to complete work will not be eligible for extracurricular activities and sports. They will be ineligible for the remainder of the five-week marking period.

Grades will be checked at the end of each five-week marking period. Students who are failing one or no core classes will not be required to attend study table and will be considered eligible for extracurricular activities and sports.

Students will start fresh the following September and will not be penalized for the prior year's grades.

Note: Ineligible students wishing to participate in one of the following performance activities (Sports, Winter Guard, Odyssey of the Mind, Variety Show)

may only be a part of the team/group under the following conditions:

- Must attend study table four days/week every week during period of ineligibility;
- Must attend practice after study table;
- Must turn in a pass to the coach from the study table teacher each day to verify that study table attendance;
- Must cooperate with all study table rules and productively complete assigned class and homework;

Students who do not meet the above conditions will be ineligible to participate in the performance activity. Students may still be expected to practice but cannot take part in actual events/performances during the period of ineligibility.

The coach/advisor will be responsible for notifying the Middle School Office if a player becomes ineligible and wishes to continue with the team/group. Coaches are responsible for monitoring their player's fulfillment of the above criteria.

IX. THE COACH

All Sherburne-Earlville coaches are certified with current certification in First Aid and CPR/AED. Each is responsible for guiding their student-athletes through practices, scrimmages and games appropriate to their age and level of play. These activities are conducted so that the physical welfare, health and safety of the participants is protected and fostered. The coach teaches physical skills, moral values and proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play, in accordance with the Sherburne-Earlville Athletic Philosophy.

X. BUILDING REGULATIONS

1. Only authorized personnel are allowed in the locker room or coaches' offices.
2. No glass containers of any kind are permitted in the locker rooms.
3. Loitering in the building is not permitted.
4. Students are to bring their coats and books to the locker room at practice time. Parts of the building other than the gym and pool area are off limits at the conclusion of the school day.
5. At the conclusion of practice, athletes should stay in the locker room or athletic wing. When dismissed by their coach, the athlete should exit the building and await transportation home. Coaches are required to remain with all student-athletes while waiting for a ride home.

XI. CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

The appropriate chain of communication for those with questions or comments in relation to the Athletic Department is as follows:

1. Student-Athlete to Coach to Athletic Director (607-674-8433)
2. Parent/Guardian and Student-Athlete to Coach to Athletic Director
3. Parent/Guardian to Athletic Director to Superintendent
4. Athletic Director to Superintendent to Board of Education

XII. ATHLETIC AWARDS

Athletic awards are given in recognition of a participant's performance during a particular season. Awards will be made to those who have followed the policies governing athletics as outlined in the student's Athletic Handbook and the Athletic Code of Conduct, and have completed the season in good standing.

1. Varsity Letter Awards

- **First overall:** Varsity Letter, certificate, appropriate sport pin
- **First in second sport:** Certificate, appropriate sport pin
- **Second in a sport:** Service bar
- **Third in a sport:** Star
- **Fourth in a sport:** S-E pin
- **Fifth in a sport:** Paw print
- **Sixth in a sport:** Senior pin

2. Special Awards

- **Silver Marauder Patch:** Three Varsity Letters in one year.
- **Outstanding Athletic Achievement Award:** Special display plaque for senior with more than six Varsity Letters.
- **Otto Buell Award:** Hardest working Varsity and JV football players.
- **Ralph Hodge Memorial Award:** Two awards (\$100 each) for best offensive and defensive football players.
- **U.S. Marine Corp Distinguished Athlete Award:** Showing courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership as a high school athlete.
- **Marti Conklin Award:** For a girl who has shown dedication to a sport, proven to be a team player, and worked to improve/promote her sport.
- **Sherburne-Earlville Student-Athlete Award:** One boy and one girl who contributed the most to the Athletic Program during High School and excelled academically.

- **Army Reserve National Scholar-Athlete Award:** One male/female who excelled in academics and any organized sport in a school year.
- **Gene Predmore Jr. Memorial Award:** Graduating senior who excelled in Track & Field during grades 9-12.
- **Matt Masuhr Memorial Award:** Graduating senior with a sincere interest in athletics who participated in at least one sport throughout Grades 7-12. Must be planning to play or coach a sport after graduation.
- **Section III Scholar-Athlete Award:** Senior boy and girl with a four-year minimum scholastic average of 92.00 and participation in at least two varsity sports during junior and senior years. Honored at an awards dinner in June.
- **Thomas J. Newman Memorial Scholarship:** Senior Varsity baseball player planning to attend a two- or four-year college who demonstrates sportsmanship on the field, as well as integrity and leadership on and off the field.
- **Booster Awards:** Junior Varsity, Freshman and Middle School student-athletes who finish the season in good standing (certificates).

XIII. SPORTS BOOSTERS

The Sherburne-Earlville Sport Booster Club serves the interscholastic sports program and takes pride in the accomplishments of the S-E athletics community. To be effective, an organization must have volunteers. Membership in the Booster Club is open to everyone, regardless of whether they have a child involved in athletics. If you are interested in joining the S-E Sport Boosters, please fill out a registration form included in the “Be A Sport Packet.”

2022-2023