

# DOMINICAN HIGH SCHOOL



## ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

## Table of Contents

- Introduction.....Page 3
- Philosophy.....Page 3
- Mission.....Page 3
- Academic Eligibility.....Page 4
- Athletic Code of conduct.....Page 5
- Athletic Program Requirements.....Page 6
- Parent/Coach Communication .....Page 10
- Student Athlete Form.....Page 11

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

- The information contained in the Dominican Athletic handbook is intended to inform and educate students and parents. It is not intended to restrict or hinder your athletic experience, but to provide uniformity within the athletic programs and to ensure that students and parents are aware of all rules, policies and procedures with in the athletic programs at Dominican. When used in conjunction with the Parent-Student Handbook, the WIAA Senior High Handbook, the WIAA Season Regulations, information contained in the WIAA website, the Metro Classic Conference rules, and rules and regulations of Dominican, this manual further explains pertinent policies and procedures. As well as the athletes role in carrying out those policies and procedures regarding Dominican’s interscholastic athletic programs.
- After you thoroughly review the materials in this manual, please sign the form at the end and submit it to the Athletic Director prior to the beginning of your season. If you have any questions, please seek clarification prior to signing.
- It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our interscholastic athletic programs. If at any time you have questions, please feel free to contact the Athletic Director.

## **II. PHILOSOPHY**

- Dominican High School believes that participation in interscholastic activities can be both physically and educationally beneficial to the overall growth of our students. We feel that through practices and competition student athletes can gain valuable experience in areas such as team work, problem solving, work ethic, and leadership.

## **III. MISSION**

- The mission of Dominican athletics is to provide opportunities for our students to find success. Though team work, skill-building and dedication, we believe our students will develop leadership skills that positively impact their future. We are grateful for our dedicated coaching staff and their commitment to enhancing our student-athletes’ high school experience.

#### IV. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- A student is placed on academic/athletic probation for one or more of the following reasons:
  - i. Earning two (2) or more failing grades during the most recent grading period
  - ii. Achieving a grade point average (GPA) below 1.67 during the most recent grading period (Academic Quarter or Semester)
  - iii. Failing a course whose academic credit is required to achieve graduation
  - iv. Earning three (3) or more 'incomplete' grades during the most recent grading period
  
- **The Dean of Students has the discretion to recommend academic/athletic probation for any student (regardless of GPA) who may benefit from a period of more intensive academic monitoring or attention.**
  
- The status of participating students is determined on eight review dates, consisting of the end of the four academic quarters and four mid-quarter reviews. Initial eligibility for the beginning of the first quarter for returning students has already been determined. All incoming freshmen students are considered eligible unless previously determined upon admission. The Dean of Students will communicate eligibility notice directly to the Athletic Director, coaches, and organizational moderators, who will notify affected students. Eligibility appeals may be made to the Principal. *\*\* Students will be notified of their updated status within two (2) school days or less after each review date.*
  
- Co-curricular eligibility (for athletics, theatre, clubs and organizations, fieldtrips and school travel) is linked directly to academic probation. Co-curricular ineligibility stipulates that a student may not participate (practice included) in any co-curricular activity while identified on academic probation. Students may appeal their co-curricular ineligibility to the Dean of Students after fifteen school days into the probation period. A formal 'probationary review' shall be conducted to determine co-curricular eligibility at this time.
  - **Additional Notes:**

At the end of Quarter Two/Semester One and Quarter Four/Semester Two, the higher G.P.A. (quarter/semester) applies toward this code.

All summer school courses must be pre-approved by Guidance/Administration BEFORE summer sessions begin. Students may remediate a course failure toward eligibility during the summer session, but the G.P.A. from Quarter Four/Semester Two is not updated with summer school grades for eligibility purposes.

## V. ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

- Dominican High School recognizes the importance of participation beyond the classroom and realizes its role in the education of the student. The student in turn must recognize and accept the responsibility s/he carries as a representative of Dominican High School. The student must strive to be physically, mentally, socially and academically fit and understand all rules, regulations and responsibilities to others, school and self. All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is a credit to their personal integrity, to their parents, and to the school. A Dominican student is loyal, respectful, fair and knows and accepts the rules of participation.

- RULES & REGULATIONS

The following are to be observed by all Dominican students:

1. No smoking or other use of any tobacco products. No use, possession or distribution of any alcohol, non-prescription drugs or controlled substances (or distribution of prescription drugs).
2. Students are expected to abide by all school rules as outlined in the entire Student Handbook.
3. Since practice is the backbone of many programs, particularly sports, it is essential that every student be in attendance unless s/he notifies her/his supervisor prior to the start of practice.
4. Students are advised to plan appointments, business, vacations, etc., at times that do not interfere with their schedules. Absences from events, meetings or practices could result in disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension from one or more contest(s).
5. The school absentee list will be checked each day. In the event that a student's name appears on such a list, s/he will not be permitted to participate that day unless excused by the Dean of Students or Principal.
6. All athletes are governed by the rules set down by both the WIAA Constitution and Bylaws and those rules established by the Metro Classic Conference.

- PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS OF ATHLETIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

A first offense will result in a suspension from one or more events. Any subsequent offense could result in further suspensions or dismissal from the group and loss of recognition.

- **SANCTIONS FOR USE/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS**

1st Offense: **Suspension of all co-curricular eligibility for 30% of the entire season/activity cycle (please note that if needed this penalty can last into the next sport season)**

2nd Offense: **Suspension of all co-curricular eligibility for 100% of the remainder of a season/activity cycle.** Portions of seasons are prorated. Eligibility for subsequent co-curricular involvement (beyond the time-frame of the current season/activity) may also be suspended. A student must complete the required practices/team obligations through the end of a season to get credit toward the following season.

3rd Offense: **Suspension for one calendar year.**

*The student-athlete may also forfeit his/her award (letter or other), and other recognition's such as team captain position, conference nominations, etc.*

*Please note that the Dean of Students will make the final decision on all sanctions regarding the use of tobacco, alcohol, and all other drugs/banned substances*

## **VI. ATHLETIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

Every student who participates in athletics at Dominican High School must:

1. Maintain the standards and adhere to the policies and requirements of Dominican High School, the DHS Athletic Department, the Metro Classic Conference, and the WIAA.
2. Have signed and on file in the school office the policy acknowledgment card that accompanies the Student/Parent Handbook.
3. **Have a Physical Examination Card/Alternate Year Health Card on file with the Athletic Director prior to the first practice.** While attendance at practice remains mandatory, no student is allowed to participate in a practice or event until the appropriate health card is on file at DHS. All students new to DHS (all Freshmen and Transfer students) must have a newly completed Physical Examination Card.
5. Be in good academic and behavioral standing.
5. Be registered by their parent through Dominican High School's athletic website

### **B. POLICY ON QUITTING**

Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities teach responsibility toward others and also require

students to carefully budget their time and prioritize their other responsibilities including academic, family, work and social obligations. Unless approved by school officials and parents for compelling reasons, quitting is often irresponsible and unfair to others. Therefore, a student who does quit may be ineligible for future participation. Students may follow the appeal procedure if a mutual agreement with the coach/Athletic Director is not reached.

Students seeking to transfer from one sport to another within a season must obtain written approval from parent/guardian, the Head Coaches of each sport, and the Athletic Director. Students who quit a sport must contact the Athletic Director prior to the next athletic season to have their eligibility reinstated.

### C. APPEAL PROCESS

Students have the right to appeal disciplinary cases to their respective coach, Athletic Director, Dean of Students, or Principal. The student may do so by making a request in writing as to why such an appeal should be heard. The request must be received by no later than three (3) days after the student has been notified of the consequence in question. The Athletic Director or moderator and the Principal will determine if an appeal meeting should take place. In such cases, a council designated by the Principal will meet to review the appeal. The student and her/his parent will be notified with the decision regarding the appeal within three (3) school days of receipt of request for appeal. A student may not participate in practices or games if s/he has been suspended-regardless of appeal status. Reinstatement as a participant can only occur if the appeal results in a decision conveyed by the Principal to rescind the suspension. The decision of the Principal is final.

### D. CONFERENCE AND STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Dominican High School is a full member of the Metro Classic Conference, which is a member conference of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association [WIAA]. Accordingly, DHS adheres to all WIAA rules, regulations, and requirements in our athletic programs

### E. WIAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Enrollment:**

1. The student must be in grades 9-12 with an academic program of at least 4 full credits.
2. The student must be enrolled in the school within 17 days of the start of the semester.
3. A student is ineligible for participation after 8 semesters.
4. A student is ineligible for interscholastic competition if he/she turns 19 years old before August 1st of any given year.

#### **Transfer Students:**

1. Unless transfer is effective at the outset of a semester, a student cannot establish eligibility at his/her new school until the 5th calendar day of such transfer.
2. A student is eligible only upon his/her 1st transfer from a non-WIAA school (parochial or

- private), unless there is a change in residence on the part of the parents.
3. A student who transfers is ineligible to participate in his/her school's summer program, unless such transfer involves change of residence and includes registration and certification.
  4. A student may not have eligibility in more than one school at the same time. A parent or parents who move from a primary residence within one school's attendance boundaries, may be required by the Board of Control to provide evidence of a total move.
  5. A student who transfers from any school with a status on ineligibility for disciplinary reasons retains such status at his/her new school for the same period as decreed by the former school.
  6. No eligibility will be granted for a student whose residence within a school's attendance boundaries, with or without parents, or whose attendance at a school has been the result of undue influence (special consideration due to athletic ability or potential) on the part of any person, whether or not connected with the school.

**Amateur Status:**

1. All contestants in WIAA must be amateurs.
2. Students will lose their amateur status and become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he/she:
  - accepts reimbursement, in any form; salary, cash, merchandise of any kind or amount, or share of game or season
  - proceeds, for achievement in athletics
  - signs a professional contract or agreement for services as a participating athlete
  - receives compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete, or provides endorsement, as an athlete, in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event, item, plan, or service
  - plays in any contest under a name other than his/her own name.
3. Students may accept reimbursement for food, travel, or lodging for participation as well as their uniform and symbolic awards.

**Competitive/Gender Equity: (This was taken directly from the WIAA information)**

1. Dominican High School follows the rules and guidelines as stated by the WIAA in regards to competitive/gender equity for all school-sponsored sports.

**F. METRO CLASSIC CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS**

The Metro Classic Conference believes that good sportsmanship is essential to a successful high school extra-curricular program. The elements of fairness, courteous behavior, and gracious acceptance of positive human relations must be a priority.

With these objectives in mind, the Metro Classic Conference strongly supports the following fundamentals of sportsmanship:

- a. Respect is to be shown opponents at all times.
- b. Officials are to be accorded respect at all times. Officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job and who can be expected to do it to the best of their ability. Good sportsmanship implies the willingness to accept and abide by the decisions of the officials.



c. The rules of the contest are to be known, understood, and appreciated. A familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of their necessity for a fair contest is essential. Good sportsmanship suggests the importance of conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.

d. Self-control must always be maintained. A prerequisite of good sportsmanship requires one to understand her/his own bias or prejudice and the ability to prevent the desire to win from overcoming rational behavior. A proper perspective must be maintained if the potential educational values of athletic competition are to be realized. Good sportsmanship is concerned with the behavior of all involved in the game.

e. Skill in performance regardless of affiliation is to be recognized and appreciated. Applause for an opponent's good performance is a demonstration of generosity and good will that should not be looked upon as treason. The ability to recognize quality in performance and the willingness to acknowledge it without regard to team membership is one of the most highly commendable gestures of good sportsmanship.

## G. SPECTATOR RESPONSIBILITIES AT ATHLETIC EVENTS

At Dominican High School, all persons who enter field or gymnasium spectator areas are expected to be mindful that EACH of the participants in high school athletic events is:

1st: A child of God and of her/his own parents,

2nd: A student whose academic and spiritual growth are vital, and

3rd: An athlete expected to demonstrate respect for the dignity of others at all times.

Dominican High School parents/guardians, staff, and alumni are expected to be leaders by reinforcing sportsmanship in our students at all times at home and away events. No student or adult has the right to speak, yell, gesture, or sign in any manner that can demean or humiliate a high school student-athlete or spectator.

The motto of the DHS athletic department is clear and simple:

**We cheer for,  
not against.**

## H. METRO CLASSIC CONFERENCE SPECTATOR REGULATIONS AT ATHLETIC CONTESTS

Each student attending a school in the Metro Classic Conference is expected to follow these Spectator Behavior rules:

- a. All spectators shall behave in a manner which respects others, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, place of origin, nationality or physical or mental disability.
- b. All spectators are to refrain from using tobacco on school property.
- c. There are to be no noisemakers at any athletic events.
- d. No pep signs can be posted in or carried into the events.
- e. Spectator language should be such that it will reflect favorably on the school and the students.

- f. Spectators under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be removed with parent and/or police notification.
- g. Spectators must be seated in the section or area designated for their school whenever possible.
- h. If students leave an event, they will not be allowed to return.
- i. Common courtesy shall be shown to all visiting spectators and their cheers.
- j. Spectators shall respect all decisions of contest officials.

## **I. ATHLETIC WAIVERS**

Prior to any participation in athletics all student athletes must complete the necessary waivers and paperwork. This is including, but not limited to: Physical/ Alternate year cards, Transportation agreement, Liability and Insurance agreement.

In the event on an injury during any aspect of a student participating in the athletic program, it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians insurance company to assume responsibility for the medical expenses.

## **VII. PARENT COACH CUMMUNICATION**

- ***What parents should expect from coaches***
  - Coaching philosophy.
  - Coaches expectations for your child.
  - Consistent communication of practice/game times and locations/cancelations.
  - Team expectations (i.e. - attendance at practice, dress code, conduct, work ethic, accountability, ext.)
  - Behavioral concerns in regards to your child.
  - Athletic handbook violations made by your child.
  - Need for volunteer help.
- ***What Coaches should expect from parents***
  - Immediate concerns with coaching philosophy.
  - Potential conflicts with schedule.
  - Concerns with mal treatment of your child.
- ***Inappropriate conversations to have with a coach***
  - Conversations about playing time.
  - Conversations about someone else's child.
  - Conversations about play calling.

- Conversations about team strategy.

## Dominican Student-Athlete Form

Student-Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr. of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Permission to Participate in WIAA Interscholastic Athletics

I hereby give permission for the above named student-athlete to practice and compete and represent Dominican High School in WIAA approved and regulated interscholastic sports. I further grant permission for any medical records pertaining to the health of the above named student to be made available as necessary to the proper school personnel and appropriate health care providers, including emergency medical personnel.

### Dominican High School Statement of Liability and Insurance

Although there are many positive benefits to participation in athletics, it must also be clearly stated and understood that there are risks and dangers that accompany participation in any sporting event. Although Dominican High School has attempted to provide safe facilities, good equipment and qualified coaches, there is always the chance that despite these precautions, an injury can occur. The purpose of this preamble is to clearly state that by allowing your child to participate in athletics, you are acknowledging the fact that you are putting him/her in a potentially dangerous situation which may result in an injury. Athletes and parents/guardians must both understand and accept the risk that participation in sports brings.

In the event of an injury during any aspect of a student participating in the athletic program, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENTS/GUARDIANS INSURANCE COMPANY TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEDICAL EXPENSES

### Athletic Handbook

I have read the Athletic Code in the Dominican Student/Parent Handbook and have discussed the athletic handbook with my son/daughter. We understand that he/she must completely comply with all facets of the athletic code 12 months of the year as a necessary condition of athletic eligibility in any sport sponsored by Dominican High School. It is the student's responsibility to read and follow all WIAA and Dominican High School rules of eligibility.

### Financial Responsibility for Athletic Uniforms and Equipment

As parent or legal guardian of the above named student/athlete, I agree to be financially responsible for the prompt and proper return of all athletic equipment and uniforms issued to him/her. I understand that my son/daughter is responsible for any uniform/equipment issued to them and agree to pay the replacement value of the uniform/equipment if it is lost, stolen or damaged.

*\*\*By signing below you acknowledge that you have read and are in compliance with all of the terms listed above\*\**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Student/Athlete                      Date

# **Dominican High School**

**120 E. Silver Spring Drive**

**Whitefish Bay, WI.**

**53217**