

MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT

ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK



Revised – July 2011

**Marion School District 60-3
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CO-CURRICULAR REGULATIONS

ACTIVITY CODE

PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

The Marion School District 60-3 recognizes the need to instill students with a Code of Conduct that reinforces behaviors that reflect positively on the individual, school, and community. The Code of Conduct's body of rules is in force year-round for all students in grades K-12 within the Marion Public School System. The Code of Conduct involves all activities including, but not limited to, athletics, music, drama, National Honor Society, Homecoming Royalty, clubs, student government and any other student activity.

The purpose of the Marion School District 60-3 adopting the Code of Conduct is to encourage the growth of responsible citizenship, assist in the development good health habits, promote a sense of order, and instill self-discipline in our students.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

General Eligibility

According to the SDHSAA, only undergraduates or students who have not fulfilled requirements for graduation by attending high school for four first and four second semesters of high school and no more than eight semesters in all are eligible to participate in interscholastic activities. The student must be under twenty (20) years of age at the time of participation and have enrolled not later than the sixteenth (16th) school day of the current semester.

Attendance

Students must be in attendance no later than 8:30AM immediately preceding the scheduled activity practice or contest in order to participate. The standard may be waived due to uncontrollable circumstances, emergencies, and/or verified medical appointments.

Scholastic Eligibility

A student must be enrolled in at least 5 full-credit courses to be eligible to participate in an activity. To be eligible for participation, the student must also be passing all of these courses. If a student should receive a failing grade during a two week reporting they will be ineligible until the next two week reporting period. Incompletes will be treated as failing grades until all work has been satisfactorily completed. Ineligible athletes may continue to practice but cannot participate in public performances. Notice of failing grades and ineligibility will be mailed every

two weeks and students will be notified during the school day. The ineligibility list will be distributed to the personnel handling the extra-curricular activities.

Semester Rule

A student who has not passed a minimum of 4 classes at the semester will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities for the following semester. Notice of failing grades and ineligibility will be mailed and students will be notified. The ineligibility list will be distributed to the personnel handling the extra-curricular activities. Ineligible athletes may continue to practice but cannot participate in public performances

Code of Conduct

The possession or use of alcohol and/or tobacco is a violation of the Code of Conduct, as is possession, use or distribution of mood altering substances, i.e. prescription drugs, marijuana, etc. , a violation of the Code of Conduct and/or SDCL 13-32-9. Crimes against person or property are a violation of the Code of Conduct. Conduct by a student that is inconsistent with the philosophy and purpose of the Marion School District is considered a violation of the Activity Code. Students in violation of the Code of Conduct are subject to the consequences outlined below.

1st Offense – A suspension of 10 consecutive school days shall be invoked during which time the student may not participate in practices or contests.

2nd Offense – A suspension of one semester or ninety (90) consecutive school days, whichever is greater during which time the student may not participate in practices or contests. The student will lose all recognition and statistics acquired during the season.

3rd offense – A suspension of one calendar year (365 days) shall be invoked during which time the student is ineligible to participate in any school sponsored activity. The student will be referred to counseling.

*If a student attends and completes an approved counseling program the consequences for 2nd and 3rd offenses may be reduced by up to one half if allowed by SDHSAA regulations.

DUE PROCESS

1. The principal/athletic/activities director shall inform the student/parents/guardian of the rule, regulation or policy that has been violated.
2. The student will be given an opportunity to answer the charges.

3. The principal/athletic/activities director will render a decision as soon as possible after reviewing the case followed by written confirmation.
4. Decisions made by the principal/athletic/activities director may be appealed in writing to the superintendent within ten (10) days of the decision.
5. During the appeals process the penalty will be in effect. The Superintendent shall render a decision on the appeal within five (5) days.

SDCL 13-32-9

SUSPENSION FROM EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS

Any person adjudicated, convicted, or the subject of a suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances of marijuana, as defined in Chapter 22-42, is ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities at any secondary school accredited by the Department of Education and Cultural Affairs for up to one (1) calendar year. Upon a subsequent adjudication, conviction, or suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances or marijuana, that person is ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity under the South Dakota High School Activities Association for the entire period of time said student attends a school under the accreditation of the Department of Education and Cultural Affairs.

STUDENT FORMS FOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Students wishing to take part in interscholastic athletics must have on file with the School District a copy of a physical examination performed by a qualified health care provider. Physicals are required on an annual basis.

Physical examinations for students must be conducted on or after June 1 in order to be considered applicable for the upcoming school year.

Other forms necessary for interscholastic participation include, but are not limited to: Insurance Waiver/Verification, Parent Consent, Medical Consent, and Concussion.

Proper forms will be available in the School District offices and on the School District website. These forms must be properly completed and signed by the parent/guardian and the attending health care provider prior to participation.

CHEERLEADING HANDBOOK

Cheerleaders for the school year will be: 4 Girls Basketball Cheerleaders; 4 Wrestling Cheerleaders (preferably 2 from each school involved in a co-op); 5 Football Cheerleaders; 5 "A" Team Cheerleaders for Boys Basketball; 6 "B" Team Cheerleaders for Boys Basketball; 4 Seventh Grader Cheerleaders and 4 Eighth Grade Cheerleaders.

If 10 or less cheerleaders try out for Boys Basketball Cheerleaders only one squad of 5 will be chosen.

All High School squads will be open to anyone from grades 9 through 12.

Adopted '98-'99

Cheerleading Policy

1. Football cheerleaders will cheer at all games.
2. Boys Basketball Cheerleaders will cheer at all home events and tournaments.
3. Wrestling Cheerleaders will cheer at all home events and tournaments.

Adopted June 13, 2005

Cheerleading Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the Marion Cheerleaders is to promote good sportsmanship. This will be done by following the guidelines set by the S.D. Cheerleading Association.

Cheerleaders must recognize that they are part of a team and need to be at all games and practices unless permission has been given by the advisor in advance to attend another school-related activity. The same rules and regulations apply to cheerleaders as apply to other athletes.

Wrestling Cheerleaders

At State events if two or less wrestlers qualify, two cheerleaders and one stat person will accompany wrestlers to state events; if three or more qualify, all the wrestling cheerleaders and state personnel will accompany wrestlers to state events. Cheerleaders and stat personnel will be selected by class - experience - flip of coin. If there are three seniors the two with the most experience go first. If a tie still exists, a flip of the coin decides.

Adopted May 2, 1988

Cheerleaders Conflicts

Students that are cheerleaders and have a conflict with any other sports-related activity will indicate before the season begins which activity will be their priority and will inform the cheerleading advisor and the coach of the activity.

Adopted 1-13-92

OPEN GYM/FIELD/ROAD POLICY

The South Dakota High School Activities Association holds local administrators responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Open Gym/Field/Road Policy within each member schools jurisdiction.

Member schools may provide an open gym/felid/road opportunities for students during the regular school year or summer months provided the following criteria listed below is followed.

1. Local governing board has adopted on open gym/field/road policy that incorporates SDHSAA guidelines as well as any other matter that would be germane to this type of activity.
2. This is a program whereby the gymnasium, field, road, or any other facility is made available to all students for recreational purposes. Attendance must be on a voluntary basis.
3. Member schools may furnish specific equipment related to the open gym/field/road activity such as balls, goals, nets, mats, etc/.
4. The time and dates of open gym/field/road shall be made known to the student body by the administration, in a timely manner, through announcements, bulletin board postings, school paper articles, etc. Local policy may designate certain schedules for girls only, boys only, or grade levels.
5. Participants must furnish their own clothing such as sweat shirts, shorts, shoes, etc.
6. Supervision of the open gym/field/road shall be subject to local school board policy and must include but not be limited to the following.
 - A. The person in charge of supervising open gym/field/road may not coach the students during the open gym/field/road session. The restriction includes, but is not limited to, the teaching of fundamentals for a specific sport. In this regard, organized practice sessions during open gym/field/road are prohibited.
 - B. High School coaches may supervise open gym/field/road.

The Marion School District students may choose to participate in open gym/field/road if they are currently involved in another sport. The Marion School District subscribes to the SDHSAA philosophy of multi-sport athletes, rather than sports specialization. Because open gym/field/road may involve both in-season and out-of-season athletes, supervisors shall advise

in-season athletes of their responsibilities to their current sport and restrict their activities to those that would be deemed non-detrimental to their in-season sports team. To ensure compliance with SDHSAA regulations and guidelines – and address concerns for legal liability – open gym/field/road activities can be supervised only by members of the Marion Public School staff.

CONCUSSION POLICY

The Marion School Board recognizes the risks associated with playing contact sports and other extra-curricular activities. One of those risks is the potential for concussions. The Marion School District requires that all students and parents/guardians read and sign the Concussion Fact Sheet (JECC-F) prior to participation.

The Marion School District will offer ImPACT testing (or other valid test) at the beginning of each school year in an effort to provide licensed health care providers the necessary pre-concussion (baseline) information. ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) is the first, most-widely used, and most scientifically validated computerized concussion evaluation system. ImPACT Testing can then be administered again after a suspected concussion to determine when it is safe for an athlete to participate again.

Developed in the early 1990's by Drs. Mark Lovell and Joseph Maroon, ImPACT is a 20-minute test that has become a standard tool used in comprehensive clinical management of concussions for athletes of all ages. ImPACT Applications, Inc. was co-founded by Mark Lovell, PhD, Joseph Maroon, MD, and Michael (Micky) Collins, PhD.

Given the inherent difficulties in concussion management, it is important to manage concussions on an individualized basis and to implement baseline testing and/or post-injury neurocognitive testing. This type of concussion assessment can help to objectively evaluate the concussed athlete's post-injury condition and track recovery for safe return to play, thus preventing the cumulative effects of concussion. In fact, neurocognitive testing has recently been called the "cornerstone" of proper concussion management by an international panel of sports medicine experts.

ImPACT can be administered by an athletic trainer, school nurse, athletic director, team coach, team doctor, or anyone trained to administer baseline testing. ImPACT is the most widely used computer-based testing program in the world and is implemented effectively across high school, collegiate, and professional levels of sport participation.

Prior to return to competition from a suspected concussion, the Return to Competition Form (JECC-F) must be signed by a licensed Health Care Professional.