

Mississippi High School Activities Association Academic Eligibility Standards High School and Junior High

MISSION STATEMENT

The Calhoun County School District will promote participation and sportsmanship to develop good citizens through interscholastic activities which provide equitable opportunities, positive recognition and learning experiences to students while maximizing the achievement of educational goals.

ACADEMIC RULES FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES

The MHSAA eligibility rules require each student participating in MHSAA sanctioned competitions to make “satisfactory progress toward graduation.” Each school district determines the requirements for “satisfactory progress toward graduation” through its graduation requirements. Each school district must interpret this according to its requirements. In situations which require “judgment,” schools are directed to “interpret the rules for the benefit of the students.”

Additionally, according to Mississippi law, a student must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 or a C average. This will be measured at the conclusion of the first semester using the semester averages of all the courses the student is taking. Students who do not have a 2.0 or a C average for the first semester will be ineligible for the second semester.

Ninth grade begins high school eligibility – Fall eligibility: Must be promoted to ninth grade, with at least an overall

2.0 or C average of all eighth grade courses.

At the end of the school year, each student’s grade point average for the year will be assessed. This assessment will reflect the average for the entire year using the final grades for each course. If the student does not have a grade point average of at least 2.0 or a C average, he/she will become ineligible for the fall semester.

Students may attend summer school, extended school year, take correspondence classes, participate in credit recovery programs and take advantage of other related options to establish a 2.0 or C average to regain eligibility. Students must complete these programs prior to the first day of the next year or the next semester.

A 2.0 or “C” average may be calculated in two ways: by grade point average or numerically. Grade Point Average: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. Numerical: Average all the semester or yearend averages and place the average in the local grading scale. If the overall average is a “C” or better, the student is eligible.

A student athlete may become eligible for the second semester only once during his/her high school career if he/she fails the year end average the previous year, by achieving at least an

overall 2.0 or C average at the end of the first semester. This will be done in order to keep the student on track for graduation.

NOTE: Detailed information on eligibility can be found on the MHSAA website, home page under Eligibility”.

In accordance with Mississippi Department of Education guidance and State Board Policy 74.19, Volume II, students receiving special education services shall be considered academically eligible when they meet district eligibility requirements with the accommodations, modifications, and supports provided through their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Students receiving special education services are subject to the same attendance requirements established by the Calhoun County School District for all student athletes.

When traditional eligibility measures cannot be applied, the IEP Committee, including the coach or the coach's designee when appropriate, will determine eligibility based on the student's progress toward IEP goals, compliance with district attendance requirements, participation in the instructional program, and completion of assigned coursework consistent with the student's IEP.

Out of School One or More Semesters: If a pupil who is eligible for a given semester drops out of school for one or more semesters, he/she is then ineligible until he/she achieves an overall average of 2.0 during a semester. A pupil who is eligible for a given semester cannot drop out of school during the semester or remain out of school for one or more semesters and then be eligible for the next semester he/she attends.

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE PARTICIPATION: Pupils in the seventh and eighth grades participating at the high school level for fall eligibility must: be promoted; have passed the four core courses (English, math, science and social studies); and the average of those four core courses must be a “C” or above. For spring semester eligibility, the student does not have to be passing all four core courses, but the average of those four core courses must be a “C” or above. Summer school or extended school year grades will replace the grade for a failed course in the spring semester GPA.

If a student meets promotional requirements at the end of the school year but is retained in the same grade, the student is ineligible for one (1) year. This is commonly referred to as redshirting. If the student participates after being declared ineligible, the school will be placed on athletic probation by the MHSAA. Also, the school could lose accreditation by the State Department of Education.

SUMMER SCHOOL CREDITS: An accredited summer school shall be considered as an extension of the second semester of the school session, and credits earned in such a school may be considered in determining the scholastic eligibility of students. The completion of a full unit, major subject, during a summer school shall be classed as passing one major subject for one unit of credit and not as passing two major subjects for one half unit each. Credit recovery courses and accredited correspondence courses may be accepted for establishing athletic eligibility provided the course has been completed and recorded prior to the beginning of the following year/semester.

Exceptions to Rule (1) may be made by the Executive Director in the following cases:

1. Students that have been tested, screened, and placed in a TMR or EMR Special Education program.
2. Students that have been tested, screened, and placed in accordance with their IEP in a Special Education Program approved by the State Department of Education will be ruled eligible with the following requirements:
3. Make satisfactory progress in their course work.
4. Maintain attendance according to district policy.
5. Be assigned a date of entering the ninth grade corresponding to other students of that age.
6. Be subject to all other rules and regulations of the MHSAA.

OVERNIGHT PROCEDURES

1. For all overnight trips, a curfew shall be established by the head coach or his/her designee. Under no circumstances shall the curfew be later than 12:00 midnight.
2. Student athletes shall not leave the hotel, contest venue, or any other designated team location without staff supervision and permission from the head coach or his/her designee.
3. Student athletes may be permitted to leave the immediate supervision of the team during an overnight trip to spend time with a parent or legal guardian. Such requests must be approved in advance by the head coach or his/her designee and are subject to the coach's discretion.
4. The parent or legal guardian must personally sign the student athlete out and back in at the designated time and location established by the coach.
5. Student athletes participating in an overnight trip shall stay overnight with the team.
6. Student athletes are expected to follow all team rules, school district policies, and directions of coaches and chaperones during overnight trips. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action and/or loss of participation privileges.
7. Failure to comply with any of the overnight procedures may result in disciplinary action, suspension from participation, or other consequences as determined by the coach and school administration.

UNDUE HARDSHIP CASES

AUTHORITY: The Executive Committee shall have authority to set aside the effect of any eligibility rule except the age limit upon an individual student when in its opinion the rule works an undue hardship upon that student.

1. Serious injury or prolonged illness supported by a doctor's records, or other conditions which are beyond the control of the student and his/her parent/guardian, that cause the student to miss school for a prolonged period of time may be considered valid reasons for requesting an undue hardship case.
2. it is understood that ordinary cases of ineligibility shall not be considered as coming under the hardship category. Inability to participate due to illness, injury, or other medical causes shall not be considered a hardship. The fact that a student fails to pass the required

number of courses, withdraws from school, is retained, or repeats his/her school work is not sufficient grounds for a favorable decision on an undue hardship case.

3. The appropriate time for hardship application is when the hardship is discovered, not after the student has completed four consecutive years.

PROCEDURE: The Executive Committee shall meet several times a year to consider requests to have the rules set aside for the benefit of individual students and shall consider such requests at the meetings held for that purpose.

1. The Executive Director shall rule on cases of eligibility prior to submitting the undue hardship case to the Executive Committee.
2. Each application must be made in writing by the school principal, with the approval of the superintendent prior to the meeting and should contain all of the facts pertaining to the case, including sufficient data to make it possible to reach a decision without further investigation.
3. A personal appearance of the principal and/or superintendent before the Executive Committee may be requested.
4. Each school will be given 15 minutes to present any verbal information concerning their case. The principal will designate who will speak and how many, but cannot exceed the time limit.
5. The decision of the Executive Committee to set aside the effects of the rule in each individual case shall be by majority vote.
6. The Executive Director shall notify the school in writing of the decision

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY RULES: JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL

To be eligible to participate in interschool Junior High/Middle School activities, a contestant must:

1. Be a bona fide student having enrolled not later than the fifteenth day of any semester of participation, carry four basic courses* and deport himself satisfactorily.
2. A pupil must attend school in the school district of which his parents are actual bona fide residents.
3. A student must be promoted and have passed any four basic courses* with a 2.0 or "C" average the previous semester (computed numerically or by GPA). The year-end average of four basic courses passed will be used to determine eligibility for the fall semester. Students must be on track to be promoted to be eligible. Summer school or extended school year grades will replace the grade for a failed course in the spring semester GPA.
4. A pupil who is not eligible at the beginning of the school year may become eligible the second semester only once during the student's junior high school career by passing four basic courses with an overall average of 2.0.
5. The instructional program of the district is based on an instructional management plan/system which defines core objectives, standards of mastery, and criteria for the academic promotion/progression of students from one grade level to the next. The criteria prohibit the retention of students for extracurricular purposes.

6. Have on file with the Executive Director at least 15 days prior to the first game or contest the eligibility list giving all information on the form required by the Director.
7. Age:
 - a. Seventh grader must not have reached 14 years of age before August 1.
 - b. Eighth grader must not have reached 15 years of age before August 1.
 - c. Ninth grader must not have reached 16 years of age before August 1.
8. **Birth Certificates Required.** Students shall not be eligible to participate until a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, issued by the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which he was born, has been presented to the Principal or his designee of the school. Date of birth and birth certificate number shall be listed on eligibility list (form 1) along with other information the first time a pupil's name is submitted to the state office.
9. Students must have been examined by a physician and have been declared physically fit. Nurse practitioners may give physicals to athletes provided they are doing so in compliance with state law and are operating under proper approved protocols. A physician or nurse practitioner must sign the certificate.
10. A player shall not play in more than four quarters per week in football.
11. Players cannot be transferred back to junior high/middle school team once they play on the high school varsity or "B" team.

** Basic courses - Any subject that meets the equivalent of at least 250 minutes per week or meets the State Department requirement.*

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Student/athletes must pass a current year (Ex. May 15-May 15) physical examination and have the form signed by an

M.D. or D.O. The examination must be given on or before the previous physical's date. The physical form must be on file with the coach of the sport you are participating in and a copy should be turned in to the administrative office before he/she is allowed to participate in any sport. (MHSAA RULING)

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Each student/athlete must set up a DragonFly account and complete the following electronic forms:

- Electronic Signature Agreement
- MHSAA Student Participation Clearance Form
- MHSAA Concussion Information Form
- Athletic Health History
- Sportsmanship
- Drug Testing Consent Form
- Updated Medical and Demographic Information
- Athletic Handbook Signature Page
- Athletic Code of Conduct

Also, each student/athlete must provide Proof of Insurance and completed Physical Form to the Coach of the sport they are participating in before practice begins.

MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ATHLETIC REQUIREMENTS

The Calhoun County School District is a voluntary member of the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA). The information contained in this handbook is intended to provide an overview of the MHSAA and district requirements affecting student athlete participation and eligibility.

The complete MHSAA Handbook is available online at www.misshsaa.com and may also be reviewed through the district compliance officer, athletic director, principal, coach, or school administrative office.

Student athletes and their parents or legal guardians are strongly encouraged to become familiar with all MHSAA and district eligibility requirements, policies, procedures, and participation standards. It is the responsibility of each student athlete and parent or legal guardian to comply with all applicable MHSAA and district requirements. Failure to meet applicable eligibility requirements may result in a loss of eligibility or participation opportunities.

AGE-HIGH SCHOOL

- Any pupil who becomes 19 years of age prior to August 1 shall be ineligible for interschool competition. A fine of \$1,000 will be assessed to any school that plays a student too old.

AGE-JUNIOR HIGH

- 7th grader must not have reached 14 years of age prior to August 1.
- 8th grader must not have reached 15 years of age prior to August 1.
- 9th grader must not have reached 16 years of age prior to August 1.

7th, 8th, and 9th graders shall not be eligible to participate until a certified copy of his/her birth certificate, issued by the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which he was born, has been presented to the Principal. Date of birth and birth certificate number shall be listed on eligibility list along with other information the first time a pupil's name is submitted to the state office.

CITIZENSHIP

Student/athletes at all levels of participation must portray good citizenship at all times while attending or representing the Calhoun County School District.

AWARDS AND AMATEURISM (MHSAA)

Students cannot receive money or other valuable consideration for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contest, except as allowed by the MHSAA handbook. Students may accept, for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports, a

symbolic or merchandise award that does not have a value over \$15.00. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips, and admissions to camps or events are permitted if accepted “in kind.” Awards in the form of cash, merchandise, certificates, or any other negotiable document are never allowed.

GENERAL TEAM GUIDELINES PRACTICE AND CONTEST PARTICIPATION

Practice and contests are mandatory for all student athletes. To be excused, the student athlete must notify the coach prior to the practice or contest. Absences should be avoided whenever possible so as not to miss valuable instruction and team activities.

Any student athlete who misses a practice or contest without prior approval from the coach will be considered unexcused. Excused school attendance does not automatically constitute an excused athletic absence.

The head coach of each sport shall have the discretion to determine the consequences of an unexcused absence, which may include disciplinary action, suspension from participation, loss of playing time, or dismissal from the team. The decision of the head coach shall be final.

In order to participate in a contest, the student athlete must attend school all day on the day of the contest or activity unless the principal grants an excused absence.

TRYOUTS

Student/athletes have the right to know the standards upon which participants are selected for a team. All student/athletes must have an opportunity (a minimum of 2 days) to demonstrate their skill and abilities before cuts are made in any sport. The student/athlete will have the opportunity to meet with the coach to hear reasons why they did not make the cut.

NOTE: If a student is assigned to Alternative School due to a violation of the Student Handbook and the suspension falls during the time of tryouts, the student/athlete would not be able to participate. Additional eligibility and participation guidelines may be found in the current MHSAA Handbook.

TEAM PLACEMENT AT A LEVEL OTHER THAN THE DESIGNATED AGE OR GRADE LEVEL

Student/athletes will begin practice with their own age or grade level. After consultation with assistant coaches, the head coach will recommend any level change to the principal for approval. If administrative approval is granted, the head coach will discuss the move with the player and parents of the player. If all parties agree that the move is in the overall best interest of the player, team, and program, then the move will be allowed to be made.

The physical, emotional, and social well being of the athlete will be the main criteria used in this decision. The above criteria are designed for sports that have two or three levels of competition. Some sports, such as tennis, golf, and track do not by their nature fit in the above criteria. Once a player moves up to a particular level then that player will be ineligible to play at a lower level again.

PLAYING TIME

Participating on an athletic team is a privilege, not a right. The coach determines playing time based on the following: respect, attitude, self-discipline, coachability, knowledge of the sport, athletic talent, etc.

If a student/athlete misses a practice before a contest the student/athlete might not have the privilege of starting that contest but may have the opportunity to play in the contest at some point. The coach will determine the amount of playing time and this decision shall be final.

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Student/athletes in Calhoun County must remember that their first commitment is to their school sponsored team. Practice and contest with the school team come first before any outside sport participation unless given prior approval. Should the student/athlete violate this policy, it could be grounds for team dismissal.

WITHDRAWAL FROM A SPORT

Once a student athlete has been selected for a team, he/she is expected to fulfill the commitment and complete the season. A student athlete may withdraw from a sport without penalty within three (3) school days after the first official practice date established by the MHSAA calendar for that sport. The student athlete must notify the head coach of the decision to withdraw.

After the three (3) school day period, any student athlete who voluntarily withdraws from a sport may not participate in another sport, try out for another sport, or participate in an off season conditioning program until the season of the sport from which he/she withdrew has concluded.

Exceptions may be granted only in extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of the student athlete that significantly affect the student's living situation, health, safety, or ability to participate. Any exception must be supported by appropriate documentation and approved by the superintendent.

All athletic equipment must be returned or paid for before the student athlete may participate in another sport or athletic activity. Any student athlete who withdraws or is dismissed from a sport must report to the principal's office immediately to begin the schedule change and withdrawal process.

HAZING

Hazing will not be tolerated. Students that are guilty of hazing will be disciplined according to the guidelines for

Conduct and Discipline found in the **Handbook for Student and Parents.**

UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Student/athletes are responsible for any uniforms, equipment, etc., issued to them by their athletic department. Student/athletes are expected to keep all issued items clean and in good condition.

They will be financially responsible for all items issued and will reimburse the athletic department for all items not returned within one week after the season. They will not be permitted to try out for another sport unless all items issued are returned and/or paid for.

Student/athletes are to wear only athletic department approved equipment.

JEWELRY

In the best interest and safety of each student/athlete, no jewelry should be worn for practice or contests.

Exceptions: A student athlete may wear:

1. Watch in track strictly used for timing
2. Medical ID
3. Wedding band

NOTE: The school district will not be held liable for any jewelry related accidents involving student/athletes while practicing or participating in a contest or while in uniform.

DRESS CODE

Each coach may impose guidelines for dress code at their discretion, with administrative approval.

STUDENT/ATHLETE ATTENDANCE

DAY OF CONTEST In order to participate in a contest, the student must attend school all day on the day of a game or activity, except when the principal grants an excused absence.

DAY FOLLOWING CONTEST The student/athlete must be in attendance following an athletic event 66% percent of the instructional day or be suspended for the next contest of that sport except when the principal grants an “excused” absence. (Mississippi Code §37-13-91)

WEEKLY CONTEST A student/athlete must attend at least 4 periods or two blocks, whichever applies, of school the day prior to the contest in order to participate except when the principal grants an “excused” absence.

SATURDAY CONTEST A student/athlete must attend at least 4 periods or two blocks, whichever applies, of school the day prior to the contest in order to participate except when the principal grants an “excused” absence.

CONTINUOUS TARDIES OR ABSENCES may lead to practice and/or game suspension or possible dismissal from the team.

NOTE: Student/athletes may be officially excused from participation by the principal only when the absence is due to a doctor’s appointment with a doctor’s verification, or because of significant or unusual circumstances.

Student/athletes should have their daily classroom work prepared for the day if they are scheduled to leave early for a contest. Each student/athlete is responsible to get the next day's assignment from their teacher and have it prepared for the class when they return.

INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

PRACTICE If school is canceled prior to the start of a school day because of inclement weather, all practices will be canceled. If weather should permit later in the day, the varsity teams may have the possibility of practicing after receiving authorization from the principal. If school is canceled during the day because of inclement weather, all practices will be canceled. (High School and Junior High)

CONTEST On inclement weather days the coach will be in communication with the school administrator and there will be a decision made by 2:00 p.m. the day of the contest.

All Junior High contests will be canceled when school is called because of inclement weather.

TRANSPORTATION

All team members will be transported to and from a contest or special practice by school vehicle.

TRAVEL EXCEPTION

The student athlete may travel home with his/her parent or legal guardian provided the coach grants written or verbal permission for one of the following reasons: (1) school-related activities, (2) family trips out of the district, (3) emergency medical treatment, or (4) family emergencies. The parent or legal guardian must sign the trip roster checkout form before the student athlete is released from team supervision. Student athletes are expected to follow all transportation guidelines established by the school district while traveling to and from contests.

Note: If a student/athlete leaves any contest without prior permission from the coach they may be subject to disciplinary action.

VACATIONS/TRIP POLICY

Vacations by the athletic team members during a sport season are discouraged. Parents and student/athletes wishing to do so may wish to reassess their commitment to being a student/athlete. In the event that an absence due to vacation is unavoidable, a student/athlete should:

1. Be accompanied by his/her parents while on vacation.
2. Contact the head coach prior to vacation, preferably before tryouts.
3. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on that squad as a starter, 2nd string, etc.

NOTE: The head coach at each level will communicate with his/her team members letting them know what the consequences are for missing practice during vacation. This communication will take place before tryouts and again before vacation break.

INSURANCE CONSIDERATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

All athletes must have proof of insurance prior to participating in any sport. If the parents/guardians of a student/athlete cannot provide proof of insurance then the student/athlete must purchase the proper insurance policy prior to participation. The school will have the proper insurance available for purchase. If your insurance lapses, it is the parent's responsibility to inform the student's coach and show proof of purchase of new insurance policy.

SAFETY CONSIDERATION FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN

In case of injury, coaches/trainers will provide immediate first aid, depending on severity of injury. If urgent doctor care is required, parents will be contacted immediately. For non-urgent injuries, parents will be contacted at the end of the contest or practice in order to discuss the injury.

LENGTH OF SEASON

The length of each season will be from the first official day of practice (which is set by the MHSAA) until the conclusion of the season.

ATHLETIC BANQUET

A student/athlete is expected to make a serious attempt to attend his/her sport banquet. Appropriate dress and attire should be worn at all banquets.

COLLEGE ELIGIBILITY

The NCAA establishes academic standards for high school students that will determine college eligibility. The academic standards may change yearly, contact the athletic office if you have questions.

NCAA CLEARINGHOUSE

Any student/athlete who attends a Division I or II University and plans to participate in intercollegiate athletics must complete a student release form and mail it to the NCAA Clearinghouse. For your convenience, the athletic office can provide the proper forms to register with the Clearinghouse.

CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC CONDUCT GUIDELINES

Students who elect to participate in athletics are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that develops strong character, alert mind, and a healthy body.

Choosing to participate in athletics means student/athletes are subject to the Athletic Code of Conduct in and out-of- school throughout the calendar year. Any conduct that is serious and reflects negatively on the student/athlete, team, or school will result in disciplinary action to be determined by the head coach, lead coach, principal and/or athletic director.

All penalties for violation of this Code of Conduct shall be cumulative beginning with the student's participation in the freshman year. At the junior high level, penalties shall be cumulative from the 7th through the 8th grade years.

****Drug tests may be required of the student/athlete either at random or with reasonable suspicion.**

PROGRAM CONCERNS

The Calhoun County School District is committed to maintaining open communication regarding its athletic programs. Concerns should be addressed through the established chain of command and at the lowest possible level before being referred to the next level.

The chain of command for athletic concerns is as follows:

1. Head coach of the sport
2. Lead coach of the school
3. School principal
4. Superintendent

Individuals with questions or concerns should first contact the head coach and attempt to resolve the matter through respectful communication. If the concern is not resolved, it may be referred to the next level of the chain of command.

Conferences with coaches, administrators, or other school personnel should be scheduled in advance and should not occur during or immediately following a contest.

Parents are encouraged to allow student athletes to address concerns directly with coaches whenever appropriate. Learning to communicate effectively and resolve concerns is an important part of the educational and athletic experience.

Board members are not part of the administrative chain of command and should not be contacted regarding athletic concerns, complaints, or requests. Individual board members have no authority to act on behalf of the district outside of an official meeting of the Board of Education. Concerns must be addressed through the administrative chain of command listed above.

All parties are expected to communicate respectfully and professionally. The district will make every effort to address concerns fairly and ensure that no student athlete is penalized for appropriately raising a concern.

BOOSTER CLUBS

Booster clubs and support groups are valuable components of successful athletic programs and provide financial and volunteer support that enhances opportunities for student athletes. Booster clubs shall support, but not direct, athletic programs and shall not participate in coaching decisions, scheduling, team administration, student discipline, personnel matters, or other operational decisions.

Each booster club or support group shall operate under a constitution, bylaws, and established procedures. It is strongly encouraged that the lead coach, head coach, or his/her designee for the

applicable sport or activity be present at all booster club meetings and informed of all proposed club activities. Any action taken by a booster club or support group is subject to review and approval by the athletic director and/or principal.

An annual financial review or audit shall be conducted and documented in accordance with district procedures.

Participation in booster clubs, support groups, fundraising activities, or financial contributions is strictly voluntary. No student athlete or family shall be required to participate in a booster club, attend meetings, volunteer, raise funds, or make financial contributions as a condition of participation in any athletic program, team activity, or opportunity (CCSD Board Policy JHA).

ATHLETIC FEES, FUNDRAISING, AND TEAM REQUIREMENTS

The Calhoun County School District is committed to providing athletic opportunities for student athletes while keeping individual participation costs to a minimum whenever possible.

Athletic programs may require reasonable participation fees, team assessments, or fundraising activities when approved by the district. Fundraising opportunities should be made available to assist student athletes in meeting approved team expenses.

No student athlete shall be denied participation solely because of an inability to meet a fundraising goal. However, student athletes and parents or legal guardians are expected to fulfill approved financial obligations associated with participation in a sport.

All sport specific fees, assessments, fundraising goals, team dues, financial obligations, and methods of collection must receive prior approval from the district athletic director and the superintendent before being communicated to student athletes or parents.

Any required forms, contracts, codes of conduct, team expectations, participation agreements, parent agreements, fundraising commitments, or other mandatory documents developed by a coach, booster club, or athletic program must receive prior approval from the district athletic director and the superintendent before implementation.

Failure by a coach, booster club, or athletic program to obtain the required approvals may result in the fee, requirement, form, or obligation being declared invalid and unenforceable by the district.

DISCIPLINE INFRACTIONS

Unsportsmanlike Conduct, Disqualifications, and Technical Fouls Involving Coaches/Students/Athletes

Unsportsmanlike conduct is governed by the MHSAA and will be enforced as set out in the MHSAA handbook.

The principal **AND** lead coach will evaluate the severity of the unsportsmanlike conduct and determine if further disciplinary action should be taken at the school level.

Disqualification and technical fouls are not what Calhoun County athletics are all about. Unsportsmanlike conduct in Calhoun County Schools will not be tolerated and will be disciplined.

Spectator Violations

Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated. If a spectator demonstrates unsportsmanlike behavior, he/she will be subjected to the reprimands of the principal, athletic director, lead coach, or school official. These behaviors can or will result in a dismissal from all school activities for **one calendar year**. Final disciplinary actions will be at the discretion of the superintendent.

If these behaviors are demonstrated at the end of the school year, discipline will be carried over into the following school year.

VIOLATIONS OF TEAM EXPECTATIONS

Calhoun County student/athletes are expected to follow team expectations. When a coach decides to remove a student/athlete from practice or contest for what he/she considers to be inappropriate behavior, misconduct, etc., that is considered the coach's discretion. Ex. Disrespectful of team members, coaches, athletic support staff, officials, continual team disruptions, continual profanity, leaving practice without permission, tardiness, absenteeism, etc. Violations may result in sitting out of practice, loss of playing time, or other disciplinary action.

THEFT POLICY

FIRST OFFENSE- Suspension from the athletic team for remainder of that sport's season if money or item is returned.

SECOND OFFENSE- Suspension of all athletic privileges in all Calhoun County School District sports for one calendar year from time of offense.

THIRD OFFENSE- All athletic privileges at Calhoun County School District will be terminated.

Note: If the offense occurs during an off season program, the student shall be suspended for the sport in which the theft occurred.

SCHOOL SUSPENSION

Any form of school suspension reflects negatively on the student/athlete, team and school.

When serving either **In School Suspension/In School Detention or Out of School Suspension**, a student/athlete will not be able to participate in any practice (including after school practice) or contest the day or days that the suspension is being served.

Serious or repeated infractions may be dealt with more severely as deemed appropriate by the principal, lead coach, or athletic director.

When a student/athlete misses practice the day before a game because of an unexcused absence, after school detention, or suspension of any kind, they will not start the contest the next day and may not see any action. (Coach's discretion)

A student/athlete on suspension is not able to attend his/her regular classes or participate in extra-curricular activities during the dates of the suspension. There is a loss of all participation in extra-curricular activities.

After 10 days of out of school suspension, a student forfeits the right to all extra-curricular activities during the school year, such as (but not limited to) sports, banquets, field trips, etc.

ATHLETIC CONTESTS REQUIRING PRIOR APPROVAL

Any out-of-state competitions or contests with Non-Member MHSAA schools will require prior approval.

PARENT AND STUDENT:

Student/Athlete's Name (print)

Sport

Student/Athlete's Signature

Grade

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

****OUR SIGNATURES INDICATE WE HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS ATHLETIC PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK AND HAVE BEEN GIVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS.***