

R&L Fusion 8th Grade Participation Waiver Request

**After the 2022 MHSA decision to allow 8th grade participation in all sanctioned sports except football, and according to the new R&L Fusion 8th grade participation policy found in the Rules and Regulations, 8th graders will be allowed to participate at the high school level after completing that sport's full Junior High Season, and upon approval of their parents and the HS coaches of the sport involved (ie, an 8th grader plays the full JH volleyball season, is approved, and then may begin HS volleyball when the next regularly scheduled HS volleyball practice occurs. A reminder, according to MHSA policy, participants must have 10 legal practices ((with the exception of golf)), in order to be able to compete at their first HS competition).

Should an athlete, their parents, and the HS coaches involved believe an 8th grader has the ability to participate and succeed in complementing a Fusion HS program from beginning to end, the athlete, after discussion with their parents/guardians and the HS coaches involved, will complete this waiver request and submit it to the R&L Activities Director **at least 5 days prior to the first day of practice of the HS sport involved.** At that time, the coaches and AD will meet to consider the waiver, will make a determination, and will communicate the decision to the 8th grade applicant.

Date:

I, _____, along with my parents/guardians, _____,

ask to be considered for a waiver in order, as an 8th grader, to play at the High School level in the sport(s) of

I realize, if granted this waiver, I will forego my Junior High season(s) and will be participating in the High School Programs only.

I have discussed this decision at length, with my parents and my coaches involved, and we all believe this decision is not only in my best interest, but in the best interest of the high school team(s) involved. I am fully aware this waiver decision will be based on

1. My academic ability
2. My sport skillset and my ability to play and succeed at a higher level
3. My maturity, emotionally and physically, as it factors into my potential successful participation in a HS sport.

A statement or two from the applicant discussing why the applicant believes this request is in the best interest of all involved:

Athlete's Signature:

Parents'/Guardians' Signatures:

Potential Affected Coach(s)' Signatures:

