

# **PENNSBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT**



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## **Interscholastic Sports Program and Rules & Regulations for the Student-Athlete**



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## Interscholastic Sports Program and Rules & Regulations for the Student-Athlete

### JURISDICTION

The "Rules and Regulations" for the Student-Athlete have been approved by the Pennsbury administration and the Board of School Directors and shall apply to any violations, on and off school premises, during the sport season of participation.

Louis H. Sudholz, III  
Director of Athletics

Pennsbury School District  
Department of Athletics

### PHILOSOPHY

The primary purpose of the athletic program in the Pennsbury School District is to promote the physical, social, emotional and moral well-being of participants. It is hoped that athletics in our school will be a positive force in preparing youth for an enriching and vital role in American life.

The athletic program is an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to participation, the athlete gives time, energy and loyalty to the program. They also accept the training rules, regulations and responsibilities which are unique to an athletic program. In order to contribute to the welfare of the group, the athlete must willingly assume these obligations because the role demands that the individual makes sacrifices not required of others.

### P.I.A.A.

All secondary schools in the Pennsbury School District are members of the Pennsbury Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and subscribe to the philosophy and intent of its by-laws that pertain to age, awards, attendance, health, transfers and residence, participation, representation, curriculum and seasonal rules will be followed. Each coach is responsible to know the rules, inform team members and parents, and to enforce them.

### SPORTSMANSHIP

Student-athletes in the Pennsbury School District must keep in mind they are **always in the public eye** and that their personal conduct will always be subject to the scrutiny of their fellow students, fans, opponents, and media. They, therefore, have an obligation to serve as positive role models by subscribing to the following:

1. Showing respect for authority and property;
2. Maintaining academic eligibility and training rules;
3. Emphasizing the ideals of sportsmanship, loyalty, ethical conduct and fair play; and
4. Understanding that striving to win is important to success in athletics just as in every facet of life.

Any display of unsportsmanlike behavior toward an opponent, official or spectator during the season will result in counseling by the coach and possible suspension from the team.

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A student must be in school by 10:00 a.m. in order to participate in an athletic contest/practice that day. An acceptance will be made if the student has an approved medical appointment; in which case, the student must present to the building administrator a signed statement from the doctor regarding the absence. A note from the parent/guardian for illness will also be acceptable.

If a student is absent the last school day of the week, and the competition is on a non-school day, the student must have administrative and parent permission to participate. It is recommended that the coach call the parent regarding the absence.

A student who has been injured and has had medical treatment cannot participate again until medical clearance has been granted.

### ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Academic eligibility for athletic activities is based on the premise that **academic performance** is the keystone of the curriculum and the standard against which **participation** is measured.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must pursue a minimum four-year roster as outlined in the Pennsbury School District Program of Studies.
2. Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading period and shall be reported on a weekly basis.
3. A student may not fail more than one subject in order to participate in an athletic program.
4. In the event that a student has failed more than one subject, he/she is **ineligible** to participate in contests for a period of one week. At the discretion of administration, ineligible students may practice with their team. The weekly eligibility begins and ends on Monday of each week.
5. If a student **fails more than one subject for a marking period**, they are ineligible to participate for the first ten days of the next marking period beginning on the first day report cards are issued.
6. A student failing more than one subject at the end of the school year will be **ineligible** to participate for the first ten days of the next fall semester unless one of the failing grades is made up in summer school.

### REPORTING PROCEDURES

1. The Athletic Office will distribute to the building Principal a list of all students involved in the interscholastic athletic program for each season.
2. Teachers will submit to the Principal's Office the names of students who are doing failing work each Friday of the week. Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading period, and shall be reported on a weekly basis.

### ABSENCES AND ELIGIBILITY

A student who has been absent from school during a semester for a total of twenty or more school days, shall not be eligible to participate until he/she has been in attendance for a total of sixty school days following their twentieth day of absence, except where there is a consecutive absence of five or more school days, due to a confining illness or injury, death in the immediate family, court subpoena, or quarantine.

### HAZING

The Pennsbury School District does not allow any acts of hazing or rights of initiation. Students found in violation will be subject to removal from the extra-curricular activity and face suspension and/or expulsion.

### PRACTICES AND CONTESTS

Each member of any team is required to make a commitment to that sport during the season. Part of that commitment involves being at every scheduled practice and contest throughout the season. Unexcused absence from scheduled practices/contests will result in:

1. Counseling by the head coach and notification of parents; if necessary; and
2. Suspension from the team and possible dismissal for the remainder of the season if subsequent violations occur.

### TRAVEL

Athletes must travel to and from contests, away from Pennsbury, in transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are:

1. Injury to participant which would require alternate transportation.
2. Prior arrangement made in writing between the participant's parent/guardian and the coach for the student to ride with the parent/guardian; and
3. When school transportation is not provided and alternative means are approved.

### EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

Equipment and uniforms are issued to students on a loan basis and are to be worn only when authorized by the coach. If any of the equipment is not returned at the conclusion of the season, an obligation will be issued to the student for the fair cost of replacing it. Until the obligation is resolved, the student will not be eligible for athletic awards and will not be permitted to participate in any future athletic season.

### COMPLETION OF SPORTS SEASON

In order for the student-athlete to be eligible for a letter, team and/or individual awards, it is required that they complete the sports season, including post-season playoffs, tournaments and exhibitions. The only exception will be illness and/or injury which limits participation. No awards will be given to any student-athlete suspended and/or dismissed for the remainder of the season for "Student Conduct Policy" violations; or who has an outstanding obligation with the Athletic Department.

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The use and/or possession of alcohol, other drugs, and steroids on school property, or within the school authority, is a violation of school rules and a violation of the law.

## POSSESSION OR USE

### 1. First Violation

- a. If a student is found improperly or unlawfully possessing, using or under the influence of drugs or narcotics classified as controlled substances or alcohol, while in school, on school property, or on the school bus, or surrounding area, he/she will be suspended for ten (10) days, and he/she will forfeit the privilege of participating in the athletic and extra-curricular activities for the same period of time.
- b. By the third day of the suspension an informal hearing will be held to determine if a Due Process Hearing may be requested for the purpose of expulsion from school.
- c. The police will be notified and will take appropriate action.
- d. Student will be referred to Student Assistance Team. If Student Assistance Team recommendations are not followed, A Due Process Hearing may be requested at any time.

### 2. Second Violation

- a. If a second offense occurs, student will be suspended for ten (10) school days and the student will be dismissed from the team/activity, and he/she will forfeit the privilege of participating for the remainder of the season/activity.
- b. The Principal may request a Due Process Hearing before the Board of School Directors for the purpose of expulsion from school.
- c. The police will be notified and will take appropriate action.

## SELLING OR DISTRIBUTION

If a student is found selling or providing drugs, narcotics or alcohol on school property or on the school bus, he/she will be suspended immediately for ten (10) school days, forfeit all rights and privileges for further participation in athletic and co-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

The Principal will request a Due Process Hearing before the Board of School Directors for the purpose of expulsion from school.

The police will be notified and will take appropriate action.

## ANABOLIC STERIOD USE/ABUSE

If the use of anabolic steroids, except for a valid medical purpose, by any student involved in school-related athletics is prohibited.

- 1. First violation - suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season.
- 2. Second violation - suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season and for the following season.
- 3. Third violation - permanent suspension from school athletics.

No student shall be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless there has been a medical determination that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

## TOBACCO PRODUCTS

PIAA Board of Control policy prohibits the use of tobacco products by participating and non-participating team personnel, including coaches, during any level of interscholastic athletic competition.

## STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

Violations of the Pennsbury School District "Student Conduct Policy" which require administrative action will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the specific sections as outlined in the manual.

- 1. For example, if a violation involves a suspension, then said athlete will be suspended from practices/contests of that team for those days.
- 2. It should be clearly understood that the same standard of behavior and discipline for the regular student shall also apply to the student-athlete and any violations of the "Student Conduct Policy" may result in forfeiture of the privilege to participate on a Pennsbury athletic team.

## COACHING RULES

Any additional rules and regulations developed by the head coach of any sport must be approved by the Principal and Athletic Director prior to the season. These additional rules and regulations must be in writing and on file in the Athletic Office.

## GENERAL REGULATIONS

- 1. Student-athletes should leave all valuables at home or with coaches, not in the locker room.
- 2. Student-athletes should be neatly groomed and properly dressed when traveling to any contest.
- 3. No athlete may quit one sport and try out for another after the season has begun without the mutual consent of both coaches.
- 4. Any civil law infraction or conduct by a student-athlete that occurs during a sport season that is determined by the administration and head coach to be detrimental to the athletic program, or the school district, will result in counseling by the school administration and head coach and possible suspension/dismissal from the team.

## PENNSBURY HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAMS

### FALL

### WINTER

### SPRING

Sport	Coach	Sport	Coach	Sport	Coach
Cheerleading	Dottie Kerr	Boys' Basketball	Frank Sciolia	Baseball	Steve Nielsen
Boys' Cross Country*	Tim Cass	Girls' Basketball	Donna Nicholson	Girls' Soccer*	Chris McCormick
Girls' Cross Country*	Don Little	Boys' Bowling*	Mike Barnes	Softball	Frank McSherry
Football	Gaylen Snyder	Girls' Bowling*	Doris Wilson	Boys' Tennis*	Glenn White
Golf*	Curtis May	Boys' Swimming*	John Wilson	Boys' Track*	Tim Cass
Field Hockey	Brooke Bergmann	Girls' Swimming	John Wilson	Girls' Track*	Tim Cass
Boy's Soccer	Tom Stoddart	Boys' Winter Track*	Micah Wright	Boys' Volleyball	Justin Fee
Girls' Tennis*	Lindsay Gebeau	Girls' Winter Track*	Tim Cass	Girls' Lacrosse	TBD
Girls' Volleyball*	Tim Paulson	Wrestling	Joseph Kiefer	Boys' Lacrosse	TBD

Fall Season: 3rd Monday in August to November

Winter Season: 3rd Monday in November to March

Season: 1st Monday in March to June

\* Program is offered to students in grades 9 -12; all other sports are provided for students in grades 10 - 11 - 12

## INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAMS

### Pennsbury High School Freshman Sports

#### FALL

- Boys' Football
- Girls' Field Hockey
- Boys' Soccer

Fall Season: Second Monday in September to November

#### WINTER

- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Boys' Wrestling

Winter Season: First Monday in December to end of February

#### SPRING

- Boys' Baseball
- Girls' Softball

Spring Season: 3rd Monday in March to end of May

### Charles Boehm Pennwood William Penn MIDDLE SCHOOLS

#### FALL

- Boys' Football (ULM and 110)
- Girls' Field Hockey
- Boys' Soccer
- Girls' Volleyball

Fall Season: Second Monday in September to October

#### WINTER

- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Boys' Wrestling

Winter Season: First Monday in December to end of February

#### SPRING

- Boys' Baseball
- Girls' Softball
- Coed Track

Spring Season: 3rd Monday in March to end of May