

## **INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS**

The School Department shall provide equal opportunity for both sexes to participate in interscholastic athletics subject to the regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Education and the Maine Human Rights Commission

School Department participation in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to approval by the School Committee. This will include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, conferences, and of any new agreements with other schools for a series of games or events.

The School Department does not provide insurance for students participating in athletics. Parents are required to sign a waiver of liability, and certify that they carry insurance to cover the student.

Physical examinations are required for all students who wish to take part in the athletic program.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY RULES**

Participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right. The student's first responsibility is to his/her schoolwork. These eligibility rules are established to ensure that student athletes' grades are maintained while they participate in the athletic program. Madawaska athletes must meet Maine Principals' Association (M.P.A.) and Madawaska High School eligibility rules.

#### **1. Maine Principals Association Rules**

Since M.P.A. eligibility rules are detailed and lengthy, they are not fully presented in this policy. However, coaches shall have copies of the detailed rules and shall furnish them to every student who is a member of an athletic team.

Among the M.P.A.'s eligibility rules are the following:

- a. A student must be regularly enrolled in the school he represents.
- b. A student may be declared ineligible to play on a school team if he played on an outside team to which objections are made by local school authorities.
- c. A student is ineligible to participate after he attains the age of 20.
- d. A student is eligible to play eight semesters only.

2. **Madawaska High School Eligibility Rules:**

- a. Athletic eligibility shall be based on quarter grades issued four times per year at the completion of each quarter and on Academic Status Reports issued four times per year at the middle of each quarter. The fourth quarter grade of the previous year shall determine eligibility for the beginning of the new school year.
- b. For a student to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, he/she must:
  - 1. Pass all subjects or maintain a C average with no more than one failure.
  - 2. Earn a minimum of one and one-half Carnegie Units at the end of the current semester in order to be eligible the following semester.

Any student not meeting eligibility standards at the end of a quarter or at the time of an academic status report will be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletics or to practice with the team. If after two weeks of ineligibility a student brings his/her grades back to eligible standards the student may return to the team. A student ineligible after the fourth quarter may practice with a fall sport team but may not compete in any games until his/her grades are brought back to eligible standards. The two-week(ten school days) will apply.

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