

## ATHLETICS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### ELIGIBILITY RULES

Maine Principals Association Rulings (M.P.A.)\*

- a. A student must be regularly enrolled in the school, which he/she represents.
- b. A student may be declared ineligible to play on a school team if he/she played on an outside team to which objection is made by local school authorities.
- c. A student is ineligible to participate after attaining the age of twenty (20) years (See M.P.A. rules for details).
- d. A student is eligible to play only eight semesters.  
\*Since M.P.A. eligibility rules are detailed and lengthy, they are not fully represented in this handbook. Coaches will have the detailed eligibility rules and will furnish them to every student who is a member of an athletic squad.

### Madawaska High School Eligibility Rules

For a student to participate in extracurricular activities, the student must not fail any subjects or must maintain an 80 average with no more than one failure. Any student not meeting eligibility standards at the time of an academic status report/report card will be ineligible to compete in any extracurricular activities or practices. ***If grades are brought back to eligible standards 10 school days after report cards, a student may return to the team. If requirements are not met, the student may not compete and/or practice until the next report card. (If a student fails coursework at the end of the school year, the 10 school day eligibility clause will begin with the first day of school the next school year).***

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

- There is to be no smoking, no drinking of beverages containing alcohol, and no unauthorized use of drugs. For more information on Policies and Procedures on Drug and Alcohol use and abuse for athletics, see the coaches' handbook or the Athletic Director.
- General conduct in and out of school shall be such as to bring no discredit to the athlete, his/her parents, the school, or the team.
- Profane language will not be tolerated.
- **Disrespect and lack of cooperation towards any staff member will lead to student disqualification in extracurricular activities.**
- Hair shall be managed in a manner so as not to interfere with the safety of the athlete.

- Unless an athlete has special permission, he/she must be home by 10:00 P.M. on the night prior to a school day or game day, and this includes Sunday. In the event of an athletic contest played out of town on one of the above-mentioned nights, the athlete is to be home no later than forty-five minutes after leaving school.
- All athletes are required to travel to and from out of town contests with the squad. An athlete may be released directly to his/her parent for certain necessary reasons.
- In order to participate in a game or practice, an athlete must be in school the day of said game or practice. It is also mandatory that he/she is in school the day following the previous day or evening game or he/she forfeits his/her right to participate in the next scheduled contest.
- Athletes, who are ill the day immediately following a game, must be excused by the school nurse. Failure to receive an excusal from the school nurse will result in the athlete forfeiting the right to participate in the next game.
- An unexcused absence from practice will suspend a player from the squad for the next contest.
- An athlete may not quit one sport and go out for another during the same season unless both coaches involved agree to the change.
- No athlete shall report to practice until he/she has seen to the following: permission slip, insurance, and physical examination.
- All equipment must be returned or the athlete must pay what the replacement cost will be.
- Practice and game uniforms are to be worn only for practice and games.
- Athletes are expected to be neatly dressed when traveling to out of town contests. Appearance is important. The athlete is representing the school, his/her parents, and the community.
- Students are prohibited from consuming, possessing, furnishing, selling, receiving, buying or being under the influence of prohibited substances. Students are also prohibited from attending student driven social functions (pit parties, etc.) or establishments (bars, clubs, etc.) where alcoholic beverages and/or other prohibited substances are present. Students attending such functions or frequenting such establishments will receive the same consequences as those consuming alcohol or other prohibited substances. A suspension from co-curricular activity ends with the completion of the activity and/or school year. Co-curricular participants are encouraged to "finish the year in good standing" by staying chemical-free. Because the period between the last activity and the coinciding awards banquet is one of high risk, anyone caught using prohibited substances during this time loses his/her letter or award and will be subject to policy stipulations for the upcoming sports season.

- All rules apply to all the members including managers, trainers, and other individuals representing a team from this school. Coaches and advisors have the responsibility of checking the above rules and enforcing them when there is a violation.
- The above rules also apply to all other co-curricular activities sponsored by Madawaska High School.

**PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH STUDENTS  
USING/POSSESSING ALCOHOL/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE**

**First Offense**

- Verify incident;
- Notify administration and follow procedures outlined in Policy JICH-A also (JJIEA-R);
- Discuss incident with student;
- Notify parent(s) and/or guardian(s);
- Suspend student from co-curricular activity for the remainder of the season (unless the student willingly and cooperatively agrees to be evaluated by a substance abuse counselor in which case the season suspension will be changed to suspension for two (2) athletic games; or two weeks, excluding vacations, whichever is greater).

**Second Offense**

- Verify incident;
- Notify administration and follow procedures outlined in Policy JICH-A also (JJIEA-R);
- Discuss incident with student;
- Notify parent(s) and/or guardian(s);
- Suspend student from co-curricular activity for the season;
- Require student to meet with parent(s) and/or guardian(s), counselor and administration for continued participation in activity;
- Recommend student to attend awareness/educational group and/or recommend services before participating in another activity;
- Encourage parent(s) and/or guardian(s) to attend an educational program on alcohol and other drug abuse.

**\*\*NOTE #1**

A suspension from co-curricular activity ends with the completion of the activity and/or school year. Co-curricular participants are encouraged to “finish the year in good standing” by staying chemical-free. Because the

period between the last activity and the awards banquet is one of high risk, anyone caught using alcohol and/or a controlled substance during this time loses his/her letter and/or award.

**\*\*NOTE #2**

These policies are to be in effect anytime during the entire school year, including part of summer vacations where soccer and golf practices begin.

**LETTER AND AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

- a. The following sports require the participants to play in one-half the number of quarters during the regular season; SOCCER, BASKETBALL, BASEBALL, SOFTBALL.
- b. A participant must attain a first place in a dual meet; a place in a county meet, or any other meet other than a dual in TENNIS, CROSS COUNTRY.
- c. The following events, SKIING, CHEERLEADING, and WRESTLING, require participants to accumulate points or other special requirements. The Coaches and Athletic Director will determine these criteria.
- d. Any student who has faithfully given service to any sport for two or more years shall be given the opportunity to become a member of the varsity squad in that sport during his/her senior year. The athlete will be eligible for a letter even though his/her ability has not won him/her a letter. This will be known as a service letter.
- e. A manager must give the equivalent of two years of service to earn a varsity letter.
- f. Junior varsity and freshmen team members will receive certificates.

\* The coach may make allowances with these requirements at his/her discretion.

**ATHLETIC AWARDS**

A varsity "M" letter will be awarded to the student the first time he/she qualifies for a letter. This will be the only letter he/she will receive. If the same student qualifies a second time in the same sport, a gold bar will be presented. This will continue each time the student qualifies in the same sport. If this same student qualifies for a letter in another sport, he/she will receive a gold emblem exemplifying that sport. Athletes who do not qualify for a letter will receive a certificate. Participants at the junior varsity level will receive certificates.

## SENIOR ATHLETIC AWARDS

At the senior graduation, an athletic award is presented to the outstanding female and male athlete of the graduating class. The athletic director will receive each coach's choice in mid-May.

