

Mount Greylock Regional School District

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Massachusetts High School Sports are governed by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). Each high school must adhere to all MIAA rules and regulations, but have the option to set higher standards.

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in athletics, grades 7-12, in the Mount Greylock School District is a privilege demanding dedication to academic studies, attendance, physical fitness, sound health practices, and conditioning. This privilege requires that athletes follow certain training rules.

The Mount Greylock School District requires all athletes and their parents to agree to and abide by the following rules and regulations.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY: In order to participate in athletics, a student may not receive more than one failing grade must be passing the equivalent of four core courses and may not receive more than one failing grade during their most recent marking period regardless of the course. Incomplete grades will be considered a failing grade until coursework is complete and a grade change has occurred. Fall athletes are required to achieve these standards during the final marking period (overall course grade) of the previous academic year. Winter sport athletes must also achieve this standard on the second marking period to continue participating on their current team. Incoming seventh and ninth grade students are deemed eligible until the first marking period grades are distributed, while transfer student eligibility is determined by the previous school and requires prior documentation. Eligibility status changes on the date that report cards are distributed or officially published in PowerSchool.

ATTENDANCE: A student athlete who is absent from school, who has not been in school for 5 consecutive academic periods, who has been dismissed for an unexcused reason, or dismissed by the school nurse, will not be permitted to participate in any athletic events on that day – practice or contest. School field trips are excused; prior notification, including a note from the physician must be provided for doctors' visits. Students are able to receive a waiver for other important appointments, but must see the Athletic Director at least 24 hours in advance to complete the waiver request form. Please refer to the school attendance policy for questions regarding excused/unexcused absences. In addition, students with a combination of 8 unexcused tardies or absences during a season will be suspended from contests. Students will miss one contest for each infraction beginning at 8.

DISCIPLINARY ATTENDANCE: A student athlete who has been suspended from school for disciplinary reasons is not eligible to attend or participate in a tryout, practice, or game while the suspension is in effect. The athlete is not eligible until reinstated in school. MIAA and other school game/practice suspensions do not begin until the athlete is reinstated.

HEALTH ELIGIBILITY: All student athletes must have successfully completed a physical exam and submitted a copy of the doctor's form to the school **prior** to sports participation.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL: From the earliest fall practice date, to the conclusion of the academic year or final athletic event (whichever is latest), a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, be in the presence of, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product (including e-cigarettes, vaping pens and all similar devices); marijuana (including synthetic); steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as "NA or near

beer”, inhalants (defined as any substance that produces a mind-altering effect when inhaled), and misuse of over-the-counter medications and substances used for the purpose of altering one’s mental state. This applies to all athletic participants, regardless of age. For specific consequences see the Athletic Conduct Standards.

Students are considered "in the presence of" when they have knowledge of possession, found in attendance at the same event, with the same group or in the same location as someone illegally consuming, buying, selling or giving away any of the substances listed above. Students in the presence of another student-athlete in violation, regardless of age will be considered in violation of the chemical health regulations. Students found "in the presence of" with extenuating circumstances, if desired, will be given the opportunity to appeal to a board of Mount Greylock Faculty Members to decrease the penalty received.

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTION OF ABOVE RULE

First Offense: Loss of a consecutive 25% of the season’s interscholastic contests beginning at the date of the next contest. Students must also complete 10 hours of mandated community service.

Second Offense: Loss of a consecutive 60% of the season’s interscholastic contests beginning at the date of the next contest. Students must complete a mandated 20 hours of community service. Attendance in a Chemical Dependency Program reduces the penalty to 40%.

If penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student’s next season of actual participation, even if that season occurs the following academic year. Community Service locations and supervisors must be found by individual students and must be approved prior to completion. Community Service hours mandated by Chemical Health violation cannot be used for academic course work.

INJURIES: No coach will permit a player to participate in a practice or contest when such participation might reasonably involve higher than normal risk of injury. If for any reason the coach, school nurse, or athletic director, become worried about an athlete’s health, the player will not be permitted to participate until a physician deems the student eligible to participate. For safety reasons, any student that has been out of practice/contests for 3 or more days will be required to obtain written medical clearance prior to returning to participation. If a player is brought to the emergency room or another medical professional during the sport season a written note from that doctor clearing the athlete for athletic participation must be given to the school nurse or athletic director before the athlete may begin to participate in a practice or contest again.

HEAD INJURIES: A student with a possible head injury must immediately discontinue participation until cleared by a physician. The Academic Recommendation Form should be completed by the physician and returned to the school nurse as soon as possible. The DPH Post Head Injury Clearance Form should be returned when the athlete has been cleared to participate.

BEHAVIOR: A student who is disqualified from a contest shall not participate in the next scheduled contest (two contests for baseball, hockey, and soccer). A two game suspension will be given to any student for fighting, punching, kicking, or spitting at an opposing player.

If an athlete is removed from a contest as a fan, the athlete will be prohibited from participating in their next contest as well as from attending the next two home contests in that specific sport, or all home contests played during the subsequent two weeks in that sport, whichever is more severe. A second removal results in a ban of all home athletic events during the school year. Non-athlete and adult contest removals will receive the same consequences.

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

BONA FIDE TEAM MEMBER RULE: All athletic participants must be consistently present for, and actively involved in all team sessions (e.g. practices, tryouts, competitions). A student-athlete must be a member of a program for 50% of the regular season schedule for that sport to participate in any MIAA Tournament competition. A member of a high school team is precluded from missing a practice or competition in order to participate in a non-school athletic activity/event in any sport recognized by the MIAA. This includes optional practices. Students cannot be given special treatment (late arrival, early dismissal, etc.) for non-school athletic programs. Saturday and Sunday practices (not contests) may be excluded from this standard without a waiver, though communication and approval from a coach is required. A waiver through the MIAA with 30 days notice is required for other important conflicts though only during the regular contest season. Violation of this rule will result in the loss of 25% of a season on the first offense, and an additional 25% as well as loss of post-season play for a second offense.

TRANSPORTATION: All students must travel to and from events via school transportation when provided. Exceptions may be granted for a student travelling with their own parent as long as prior permission has been granted and the proper paperwork completed. If school transportation is not available or appropriate, all drivers must be 25 years of age, and permission must be obtained from all parents involved. No student transportation shall be permitted.

PARTICIPATION FEES: District policy requires that student's pay an activity fee **prior** to sports participation. This fee can be paid using a check, cash, or the online school system.

Fee's: Middle School - \$95, High School - \$120

*Checks can be made payable to: **Mount Greylock Regional School.***

A waiver can be requested for students who qualify for free and/or reduced lunch.

HAZING: Student athletes should read and be familiar with the Massachusetts Hazing Policy. This policy is included in the student handbook and extra copies are available in the athletic office. Hazing is defined as **“any conduct or method of initiation into any organization which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any other person”**. This constitutes harassment, abuse, or humiliation often with the requirement to perform random, meaningless tasks. Hazing or failing to report known hazing is punishable by law.

CAPTAINS PRACTICE: The term "Captain's Practice" usually means the team's captain(s) organizing and conducting, without adult supervision, out-of-season practice for that sport. Mount Greylock and the MIAA do not in any way sanction, encourage, or condone "Captain's Practice" in any sport. "Captain's Practice", depending on the member school's involvement, may be a clear violation of the rule defining season limitations. Captains Practices are not Mount Greylock events and under no circumstances will be held on school grounds.

EQUIPMENT: Student athletes are responsible for any uniforms or other equipment issued by the school. Students must reimburse Mount Greylock School District should any of this equipment become lost. Reimbursement must be received in order for an athlete to participate in their next athletic season. Mount Greylock is not responsible for personal items or school uniforms that become lost or are stolen.

Agreements Required on FamilyID

Conduct Acknowledgement and Injury Waiver

Participation by a student in athletics is inherently dangerous. Even when all reasonable precautions are taken, students can be and, indeed, may be injured. Such physical injury can occur in any type of athletic activity, be it a "contact" or "non-contact" sport. Further, many injuries are truly accidental in nature and involve no negligence by anyone, including the student. By volunteering to participate in a school sponsored athletic activity, with permission of their parents or guardians, a student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) acknowledge and assume the potential risk for an accidental physical injury to occur.

My student-athlete and I acknowledge that we have read the above sections of the ATHLETIC CONDUCT STANDARDS and that we are familiar with the contents. As a condition of participation by the student athlete on a school athletic team, we agree to be bound by the terms and conditions contained therein as well as all additional MIAA regulations. We further acknowledge that we have read and understand the above Athletic Injury Warning.

Understanding of Risk of Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury

My student athlete and I acknowledge that we have completed the NFHS Concussion Education Course and have provided the accurate Completion Code and Date above. We are familiar with the nature and risk of concussion and/or traumatic brain injury.

Massachusetts Hazing Law and Opioid Misuse Prevention

My student-athlete and I acknowledge that we have read and are familiar with the contents of the MASSACHUSETTS HAZING POLICY and the OPIOID MISUSE PREVENTION materials. I understand that if I or my child have questions on any of this information that we should seek guidance from the Principal, Assistant Principal, or Athletic Director.

Photography Release

As a member of a high school athletic program, students may be photographed, audio/videotaped, or interviewed in a way that would individually identify them. My child and I understand that those photographs, audio/videotaped images, or data from interviews may appear in district publications (print and virtual) or in the external news media.

Fan Behavior

As a parent of a student-athlete at Mount Greylock I understand that I am expected to be a good role model for the children around me and demonstrate good sportsmanship and behavior at all student events. I realize that I must comply with the Berkshire County Sportsmanship Policy.

Parents/Fans that are not demonstrating proper sportsmanship may be removed from an event. This parent/fan will be prohibited from attending the next two home contests in that specific sport, or all home contests played during the subsequent two weeks in that sport, whichever is more severe. Prior to returning to a Mount Greylock event, a parent/fan demonstrating poor sportsmanship will be required to complete either the Online NFHS Role of a Parent Course or Sportsmanship Course. A second removal results in a ban of all home athletic events during the school year.

Contacting School Personnel Regarding Athletics

Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to talk directly with coaches and other school staff when they have questions or concerns. Coaches can be contacted using the information provided earlier in this section or by phone numbers provided to athletes during pre-season meetings. Parents and guardians should expect a return contact within 48 hours. The intent of the grid below is to direct athletes as well as their parents/guardians to the appropriate staff member best able to address their particular concern. Please refer to the parent/coach communication plan on the website.

Concern	Contact Person
Student's performance in a particular sport.	Coach
Questions about team policies or functions.	Coach
General questions about athletic policies and MIAA regulations.	Athletic Director (Lindsey von Holtz)
Safety concerns or eligibility status.	Athletic Director (Lindsey von Holtz)
If the coach has been contacted by the athlete and/or a parent, and you feel your concern has not been adequately resolved.	Athletic Director (Lindsey von Holtz)
If you have spoken to the Athletic Director and you feel your concern has not been adequately resolved.	School Principal (Mary MacDonald)