



2017-18

ATHLETE & PARENT HANDBOOK



***ARCHBISHOP McNICHOLAS HIGH
SCHOOL***

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to give athletes and their parents/guardian a guide to the operation of the athletic programs at McNicholas High School.

It is a privilege for a student to represent McNicholas High School as a member of an athletic team or squad. All athletes must abide by codes of conduct, training rules, and policies established by the McNicholas Athletic Department and coaches of the specific sports. Moreover, compliance is year-round. In athletics, we often use the term "sport season" to refer to the time from the first day of tryouts until the final contest and awards program for a specific sport, but compliance with standards of conduct and the importance of integrity never end.

It is to be understood by all athletes and their parents/guardian that a condition of the privilege of participation is a year-round commitment to follow the rules, and athletes who violate the rules will face disciplinary action.

PHILOSOPHY OF McNICHOLAS ATHLETICS

The philosophy of athletics at McNicholas High School is that athletics are an integral part of the school's educational program and provide experiences that will help athletes and student spectators physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally. We encourage maximum participation in all of our programs on the part of all students.

SPORTS OFFERED

The following sports are offered at McNicholas High School. Please see the website for coaching staff and contact information.

FALL

Cheerleading
Cross Country- Men
Cross Country- Women
Football
Golf-Men
Golf-Women
Soccer-Men
Soccer-Women
Tennis-Women
Volleyball-Women

WINTER

Basketball-Men
Basketball-Women
Bowling-Men
Bowling- Women
Cheerleading
Dance Team
Swimming/Diving

SPRING

Baseball
Softball
Tennis-Men
Track & Field-Men
Track & Field-Women
Volleyball-Men
Lacrosse-Men
Lacrosse-Women

Wrestling

POLICIES

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PRACTICES/GAMES

If a student is absent from school, he/she may not participate in any extra-curricular activities the day of the absence, unless he/she has permission from the athletic director. This applies to rehearsals, practices, games, meetings, etc.

**The administration of Archbishop McNicholas High School reserves the right to determine/review any special situation that may arise regarding attendance.

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Each athlete must do the following prior to the first practice/tryouts to participate in athletics for McNicholas High School:

- Maintain academic eligibility as required by McNicholas High School and the OHSAA.
 - Incoming freshman must have passed a minimum of five subjects in the 4th quarter of their eighth grade year.
- Participation fee paid (turn in to athletic office) before first practice/tryouts
1st sport: \$225.00 per athlete, each additional sport: \$175.00 per athlete, family maximum: \$650.00
*excludes Lacrosse fees which are \$350.
- Booster Membership fee of \$50.00, per family per school year. If the athlete only plays lacrosse the booster fee does not apply.
- Current OHSAA physical on file in the Athletic Office
- Current Ohio Department of Health Concussion form
- Archdiocese medical consent form completed
- McNicholas transportation form completed.

ELIGIBILITY

Each athlete must maintain eligibility status as set forth by the OHSAA and McNicholas High School. The eligibility guidelines are as follows:

- **Quarterly Eligibility-** To be eligible, a student must receive passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses in the immediately preceding grading period. A student must receive passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent during the fourth (4th) quarter to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities during the first quarter of the following school year. Summer school grades earned may NOT be used to substitute for failing grades from the fourth (4th) quarter of the regular school year. Parents and students will be notified at the end of each academic quarter if the student is ineligible for the extra-curricular participation the following quarter.
- **Intra-Quarterly Eligibility-** McNicholas conducts an academic review every two weeks beginning in September and continuing through May. Students who are failing two or more classes are placed on PROBATION and are notified in writing that they have two weeks to bring up their grades. During the probationary period, the athlete is permitted to participate in practices and games. If the student is still failing two or more classes after the two-week probationary period, the student is placed on the INELIGIBLE list and is not permitted to participate in any team activities for two weeks and parents are notified in writing. Every two weeks coaches/moderators and teachers receive the names of students who are ineligible or on probation. A student may fall under the state guidelines without having been through the intra-quarterly process.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICY ON TOBACCO, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL

The Athletic Department policy regarding any student participating in athletics who has violated regulations concerning tobacco, alcohol or other drugs is as follows:

1. Tobacco violations will result in a “one week suspension” from extra-curricular activities including athletic participation. A second violation within the school year for use or possession of tobacco will result in an additional suspension from school and from athletic participation. A coach may request dismissal from the team or activity.
2. Alcohol violations will result in suspension of not less than one week or more than two weeks from extra curricular activities including athletic participation. A second violation within the school year for use or possession of alcohol may result in expulsion from school and/or removal from athletic participation. A coach may request dismissal from the team or activity.
3. Drug violations will result in a suspension from participation for at least two weeks but not more than four weeks. A coach may request dismissal from the team or activity. A second violation within the school year for use or possession of any type of drug will result in expulsion from school.

The athletic department policy is in effect twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week from the first day of practice/tryouts to the last day of tournament play. An athlete that is suspended may not participate in any team function. This includes practices, games, dinners, and meetings.

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

Athletes are responsible for proper care and return of uniforms and equipment issued to them by McNicholas High School. Uniforms and equipment that are not returned or are damaged will be charged to the student and their report card will be held until payment is received. Diplomas will be withheld from seniors until payment is received. In those sports where the athlete keeps their uniform, the athlete will be required to pay the cost of the uniform. Some examples of this would be swimming, bowling, golf, etc.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The basic rules of good sportsmanship applicable to all members of the McNicholas community, most especially to the athletes, are as follows:

- Showing respect for opponents at all times
- Showing respect for officials and their decisions
- Knowing, understanding, and following the rules of the contest
- Maintaining self-control at all times
- Recognizing and appreciating skill in performance regardless of school affiliation

Being a spectator is also a privilege and not a right. Spectators will be held accountable for good sportsmanship.

EJECTION FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

The OHSAA Board of Control has adopted a policy that addresses players who have been ejected from contests for their unsportsmanlike conduct. The teaching of values through participation in interscholastic athletics will not be compromised by the misconduct of participants. The policy sends a strong message to student athletes that participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege and with that privilege comes responsibility. The athletes not accepting that responsibility will be dealt with accordingly.

The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected or disqualified for unsporting behavior or flagrant fouls. If you are ejected or disqualified, you:

- Will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day.
- Will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

If you are ejected or disqualified a second time in a season, you are subject to additional, stiffer penalties, including suspension from play for the remainder of the season in that sport.

It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure this regulation is enforced. When an ineligible student is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the Commissioner as specified in the OHSAA tournament regulations

BANQUET AND AWARDS

The Athletic Director coordinates the end-of-season awards and recognition events with the coaching staff. Plaques are provided for four-year varsity athletes, letters for first year freshmen, reserve, and varsity athletes and certificates for second and third year reserve and varsity athletes. Coaches determine letter recipients. Coaches will allow athletes to vote on appropriate awards; some (like best offensive player) are determined by statistics.

SUPPORT

Parental support is critical to the success of our athletic program. There are many opportunities for parents to show their support. Each team needs parent volunteers to do various tasks such as running the clock, announcing, working the gate and/or concessions.

BOOSTERS

The Athletic Boosters raise money to support the annual athletic budget and to keep our athletic facilities in excellent condition. They meet on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Persons interested in becoming a board member should contact the booster president.

CONFLICTS

Any concerns you have regarding your child's participation in their respective sport should be handled in the following manner. The athlete should approach the coach. If he/she does not feel the issue is resolved, the parent should then contact the coach. If the issue is still not resolved, the parent and/or athlete should contact the Athletic Office. Please refrain from approaching a coach at a game/match with concerns. We respectfully request that parents with concerns wait 24 hours after the completion of a game to contact a coach.

COMMUNICATION

The daily schedule of events, locations and times can be obtained by calling 231-3500, then dialing 1 for Athletics, followed by 3 for the daily schedule. All scores will be posted daily on the McNicholas website under Sports Scores and News. Each sport has the opportunity to support and publicize their team's accomplishments by submitting articles to news@mcnhs.org.

SCHOOL LOGO AND BRANDING

The names "Archbishop McNicholas," "McNicholas High School," and "McNicholas"; the athletic and academic logos; and other related logos are the exclusive property of McNicholas High School. No one is authorized to use, sell, or distribute materials or items of any kind which uses the names "Archbishop McNicholas," "McNicholas High School" or "McNicholas" without the expressed written permission of the school's Director of Marketing and Communications.

SOCIAL MEDIA

No social media accounts, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, may be created using the "Archbishop McNicholas," "McNicholas High School," and "McNicholas" name or any school or sports logos without the written permission of the Director of Marketing and Communications. This includes but is not limited to individual sports team accounts and school clubs or groups.

TRAVEL TO ATHLETIC EVENTS

Buses will not be provided to most athletic events. Parents are responsible for transporting their students to away contests. Students may drive to away contests but only if a bus is not provided and parents are not available. Parents will be provided a consent form indicating their wishes regarding student driving. McNicholas coaches may not drive students unless they possess the necessary credentials (CDL) or in an emergency.

ATHLETIC PASS

Students and their family members may purchase an individual athletic pass for \$75.00 from the Athletic Department. This pass enables the holder to attend any home athletic event during the 2017-2018 school year, **except OHSAA home tournament games.**