

MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

GUIDELINES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

The following guidelines will govern participation in the interscholastic athletic programs at Margaretville Central School:

1. By choosing to participate in Interscholastic Athletics, all student-athletes are required and expected to abide by the student Code of Conduct outlined in the Margaretville Central School student handbook.
2. Attend all practice sessions or games and be on time. If you are to miss or be late for practice or a game for any reason, notify your coach **in person** prior to the game or practice.
3. Report all injuries at once to your coach. After the injury is reported, coaches will file an accident report with the school nurse. In addition, no player is to return to the team after missing five consecutive days for an injury without either an examination by the school doctor or a written statement from the family physician, stating that s/he may return to competition.
4. **Everyone** will go to and from games on the team bus. Exception: approved written notice from parents to leave with a parent or guardian.
5. **No use or possession of illegal substances, which include but are not limited to: tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and steroids.** All students participating in Interscholastic Athletics are prohibited from the use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, and the abuse of prescribed or non-prescribed drugs. Participation in sports and the use of these substances are incompatible. Athletes must maintain a healthy mind and body. Any punishments will be based on the severity and ruling of a committee comprised of the coach, athletic director, and building principal. The consequence for a first violation is suspension for a minimum of one game; the consequence for a second violation is suspension for the remainder of that season; the consequence for a third violation is suspension from all interscholastic athletic participation for that school year. **All decisions regarding punishment are subject to approval and interpretation by the committee.**
6. All controversial disciplinary decisions shall be made by a committee of the building principal, athletic director, and team coach.
7. At no time is anyone to leave a playing area without permission of the coach.
8. It is expected that all persons connected with the team be dressed neatly and conduct themselves in a **sportsmanlike** manner at all times.
9. It is expected that all team members will abide by all the rules and regulations that govern Margaretville Central School, as adopted by the administration and board of education.
10. Student-athletes at away games are expected to arrive and depart as a team. Students will not be permitted to drive personal vehicles or ride in a non-school vehicle home unless it is with the student-athlete's parent or guardian. No other arrangement will be approved without advance written permission of the parent.

***IMPORTANT:** A student who is absent for a whole day or leaves school early due to illness or an illegal reason may not attend or participate in any extracurricular activities that day. This includes games, practices, and meetings. Students must be in school by 9:00 a.m. each day to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity that day. The only exceptions to this are excused tardies as determined by the athletic director and/or administrator.*

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INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS PHILOSOPHY

1. **Varsity** – The objective of varsity athletics is very clear – we want to win, and want to build the most successful team we can in order to be competitive at the highest level. That being said, we also want to teach life lessons as we teach the sports lessons. We strive to put together the best team to represent the school and to foster a winning environment as well as to instill a sense of competitiveness in the student-athletes. We want to win each game without losing touch with the other values and lessons that can be learned along the way. We are not of the mindset that the end result is all that matters; we want to win, but we want to do it the right way. It is as much about the process as it is about the end result. We understand the value of athletics to the overall learning process and the lessons that can be gained through healthy competition. We want to win and all decisions are made with that ultimate goal in mind; that being said, we want to win but we also want to teach those lessons that can be gleaned from athletics: sportsmanship, responsibility to self and others; commitment; development of a strong work ethic; and the importance of goal-setting. We understand the role of athletics in terms of school culture, climate, and spirit; through that we are trying to cultivate a competitive, winning mentality.

**** Coaches at the varsity level make every effort to be fair with playing time; however, playing time is a direct result of a combination of factors, including: work invested in the off-season, talent, attitude both in practice and in school, work ethic in practice, academic standing and eligibility. Playing time is not given, it is earned. Playing time can be increased as the season progresses through competition in practice and opportunities in games. Any and all decisions on playing time ultimately belong to the coach.**

2. **JV** – The JV programs draw some philosophy from both varsity and modified. The JV philosophy mirrors the varsity with the addition of the experience component from the modified.
3. **Modified** – The purpose of Modified sports is to provide the student-athlete with exposure to a sport that is offered at the varsity level; to provide experience to develop the student-athlete for varsity competition; to develop skills and knowledge of the sport as well as attitude and work ethic; to foster a love of the game; to help the student-athlete to decide if s/he is interested in pursuing the sport further and is willing to invest the time necessary to improve.

At this level, the coaching staff aims to provide a positive experience for the student-athlete in order to gain a sense of fulfillment and love for the game in order to motivate them to remain active in the sport. We believe that success at this level is twofold: one, we wish for our Modified teams to be competitive, but we also want to be successful in the sense that we foster a love of the game that encourages student-athletes to stay involved.

**** The student-athlete will receive as many opportunities as possible to participate in contests. Because the main goal of Modified is experience, winning is not necessarily the primary objective; however, student-athletes will understand that their level of commitment, work ethic, etc. will determine the amount of opportunity they will be afforded. Playing time is not given – it is earned. We believe that this mentality helps prepare student-athletes to compete at the varsity level. Coaches will not guarantee playing time because that will not create the competitive environment or hardworking atmosphere needed to succeed later at the varsity level. Playing time cannot be guaranteed. If a student-athlete is under the impression that no matter what he or she does, playing time is guaranteed, it does not teach a sense of responsibility, work ethic, or a competitive desire to succeed. This is unfair to the student-athletes who come on time, work hard, and show good attitudes.**

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MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL
Margaretville, NY 12455
Tel: 845.586.2647 ext. 25
Fax: 845.586.2949

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This form must be completed and returned before your student can participate in the Interscholastic Athletic Program at Margaretville Central School.

I have read the guidelines for Interscholastic Athletics and hereby give my permission for

(student)

to participate in

(sports)

for

(academic year)

I fully understand that through participation in the Interscholastic Athletic Program, there exists a risk of serious injury and/or death. I hereby acknowledge that I fully understand the risks involved.

Parent/Guardian signature

STUDENT AGREEMENT

Dear Student-Athlete:

I have read the guidelines for Interscholastic Athletics and agree to abide by these and any other regulations as prescribed by the coaching staff and the Board of Education.

Student-athlete signature

MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
CONSENT FOR MEDICAL/SURGICAL CARE/EMERGENCY TREATMENT
AND CHILD'S MEDICAL INFORMATION

In presenting my son/daughter for diagnosis and treatment:

Name: _____ For: _____
(mother father guardian) (son daughter)

of _____ years of age (DOB: _____): hereby voluntarily consent to the rendering of such care, including diagnostic procedures, surgical and medical treatment, and blood transfusions, by authorized members of the hospital staff or their designees as may in their professional judgment be necessary.

I hereby acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me as to the effect of such examinations or treatment on child's condition.

I have read this form and certify that I understand its contents.

We/I hereby give our/my consent to _____ who will be caring for my/our child
(name of person or agency)
_____ for the period _____ to _____ to arrange for routine or
(child's name) (start date) (end date)
emergency medical/dental care and treatment necessary to preserve the health of our/my child.

We/I acknowledge that we are/I am responsible for all reasonable charges in connection with care and treatment rendered during this period.

Name: _____ Family physician: _____

Address: _____ Pediatrician: _____

_____ Surgeon: _____

Telephone: _____ Orthopedist: _____

Name of health insurance carrier: _____

Group No.: _____ Agreement No.: _____

Child's allergies, if any: _____

Medications, if any: _____

Date of last tetanus booster: _____

My child has had no health changes since his/her last sports physical.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness: _____ Date: _____

In case of emergency, I can be reached at: _____