

**SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Smethport, Pennsylvania 16749**

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ACADEMIC AND DISCIPLINE REQUIREMENTS**

**PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of the extracurricular activities program in the Smethport Area School District is to promote the physical, mental, social, emotional, and moral well-being of the participants. It is hoped that these activities in our schools will be a positive force in preparing youth for an enriching and vital role in American life.

**DEFINITION**

For purposes of this policy, extracurricular activities shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.

For purposes of this policy, an athletic activity shall mean all of the following:

1. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.
2. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
3. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.

**ACADEMICS**

Smethport Area Jr. - Sr. High School students must meet the eligibility requirements of Smethport Area School District and PIAA.

**WEEKLY ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

Students must be in good academic standing to participate in extracurricular activities. Students must be enrolled full-time and be passing at least four (4) credits of subjects per PIAA requirements, and must maintain a grade point average of 65% or above in all but two (2) subjects for the weekly period in order to participate. Students must meet daily and cumulative attendance and discipline regulations to participate. If a student does not meet PIAA and SASD weekly requirements, they are ruled ineligible for the following one-week period (Sunday-Saturday). Grades are checked on Fridays and the weekly ineligibility list is prepared and distributed Friday afternoon.

**MARKING PERIOD ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

Per PIAA guidelines, at the conclusion of a grading period, students must meet weekly eligibility requirements as stated including that students must be in good academic standing to participate in extracurricular activities. Students must be enrolled full-time and be passing at least four (4) credits of subjects per PIAA requirements and must maintain a grade point average of 65% or above in all but two (2) subjects for the marking period in order to participate. If a student does not meet these guidelines, they are ineligible for 15 school days beginning the day report cards are issued.

## **GENERAL REGULATIONS**

- A. Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association rules must be followed in all cases of eligibility, transfer, physical examinations, insurance coverage, starting dates, use of school equipment, etc. Each coach has the responsibility to know, to inform team members and parents, and to enforce school and PIAA regulations in these matters.
- B. A civil law infraction or conduct by a student athlete that is determined by the head coach and school administration to be detrimental to the athletic program, school, or school district will result in counseling by the head coach and the school administration with possible suspension from the program.
- C. No athlete may quit or be dismissed from one sport and try out for another after the season has begun without the mutual consent of both coaches.
- D. All extra-curricular participants must travel to and from “away” contests in transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are as follows:
  - a. Injury to a participant which would require alternate transportation.
  - b. Parents and/or guardians may only transport their child after signing a release form at the end of the event in front of the coach or advisor or designee at the site of the activity, or at a predetermined bus stop, agreeable to the bus driver, along the route back to school. Students must discuss drop off locations with the coach or advisor in advance.
  - c. Violation of this policy may result in suspension from the team or activity.

*Note: Only team or school personnel are permitted to ride on team buses.*

- E. A display of unsportsmanlike conduct or use of profanity during a practice or contest will result in discipline by the head coach and may include suspension from the team.
- F. Theft or malicious destruction of any school or individual's equipment or property will not be tolerated. Violators will be immediately suspended from the team for the remainder of the season and shall lose all honors, letters, awards, and participation at functions for that activity.
- G. Completion of the sports season is required in order for the student to be eligible for letter or other team or individual awards. (Exception: Injury which limits participation.) No awards shall be given to any student suspended for the remainder of the season for Athletic Policy violation.
- H. Athletes are responsible for the equipment issued to them and will be required to pay for lost equipment at replacement value.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. To participate in a practice session, athletic contest, or other extracurricular activity, each student must be in attendance for at least half of the school day (attendance on Friday is necessary for Saturday events.) For unusual circumstances special written permission must be obtained from the Athletic Director or High School Principal. School attendance is particularly important the day following a game.
- B. A student-athlete who has been injured and has had medical treatment can't participate again until the date indicated by the student's Doctor.

## **DISCIPLINE**

- A. If any student receives either an in-school or out-of-school suspension, said student is ineligible to participate in any activity on the date(s) of suspension. More than six in-school and/or out-of-school suspensions in any combination will result in the loss of participation in extracurricular activities for a ninety (90) calendar day period. Each additional day of suspension will result in an additional thirty (30) calendar day period of ineligibility which may involve the following school year. Calendar days between graduation of one year and the beginning of the extra-curricular programs for the next year do not count for the ineligibility time period. Any violation of the Level IV offenses from Board Policy 5145.1 will result in the loss of extra-curricular participation for a thirty (30) day period.
- B. Any student-athlete found guilty of any Level IV offenses from School Board Policy #5145.1, will be immediately suspended from the team for a period of thirty (30) days and must receive counseling approved by the principal before returning to the team.
- C. Any subsequent Level IV violations will result in the loss of extra curricular privileges for the balance of the school year.

## **USE OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Use of or possession of tobacco on school property or at a school sponsored event by an athlete will result in the following:

- A. First offense - enforcement of school tobacco policy per student-parent handbook.
- B. Second offense - enforcement of school tobacco policy and suspension of the athlete for the remainder of his/her sports season.

**Additional rules and regulations may be established as deemed necessary for the respective athletic program.**

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*Return only the bottom portion. Keep the above information for your reference.*

I have fully read and understand the Smethport Area School District Athletic document and the Interscholastic Athletic Policy established by the Smethport Area School District.

Athlete's Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: The Athletic Director must retain this form for one year from the date of the athlete's signature.

*Updated: June, 2023*