

Student-Participant & Parent Activities Handbook

Sweetwater County School District #2

2024-25

Sweetwater County School District #2
320 Monroe Avenue
Green River, WY 82935

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
Article 1	Philosophy of Overall Activities Program	3
Article 2	Philosophy of Interscholastic Athletics Program	3
Article 3	Required Forms & Paperwork	7
Article 4	Transfer Students	8
Article 5	Varsity Lettering	10
Article 6	Attendance	10
Article 7	Eligibility	11
Article 8	Transportation	13
Article 9	School Sponsored Activities vs. City/Club/Travel Teams	14
Article 10	Student Discrimination/Harassment	14
Article 11	Hazing/Harassment/Bullying	16
Article 12	Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco/Vapor Products	16
Article 13	Discipline Protocol	19
Article 14	Chain of Command	21
Article 15	Decorating School Property – Including School Busses	21
Article 16	Fundraising	21
Form A	SWCSD#2 Sports Registration Information	23

*Sweetwater County School District #2
Activities Department...*

*“Creating Champions. In School. In Life.
In Sports. In Activities.”*

Article 1 Philosophy of Overall Activities Program

Section 1.1

The Board of Trustees believes that a dynamic and comprehensive program of student activities is vital to the educational development of all students.

Section 1.2

The Activities Program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life.

Section 1.3

The Activities Program should function as an integral part of the total curriculum. It shall offer opportunities for the student to develop all-around growth, to learn the qualities of good citizenship, to provide a positive image of the school district, and to strive for excellence.

Section 1.4

To provide a field of exploration that will allow each student to cope with problems and handle situations similar to those encountered in the contemporary world. This field of exploration should provide adequate and natural opportunities for physical, mental, and emotional growth as well as providing for the development of team values such a loyalty, cooperation, and fair play. Student-participants will receive and take part in directed leadership and supervision that stresses self-discipline, self-motivation, and the ideals of good sportsmanship that make for winning and losing graciously.

Section 1.5

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Qualified students with disabilities shall be given an equal opportunity for participation in extracurricular and non-academic programs.

Article 2 Philosophy on Interscholastic Athletics Program

Section 2.1

TEACHING LIFE SKILLS THROUGH ATHLETICS: Sweetwater County School District #2 coaches and student-athletes project an image of gracious competitors who embrace challenge, enjoy the process, win with humility, handle defeat with dignity, advocate for their sport, and are positive role models. We believe that the program of interscholastic athletics is an integral component of the total educational structure. While we will strive to make our teams as competitive as possible, our primary objective is to help our student-athletes acquire important skills that will help them to be successful throughout adult life. Our efforts as coaches will be focused on teaching our athletes how to win and not just on winning. Through positive reinforcement and intentional teaching, we will show our athletes how to succeed with humility and persevere through setbacks in a productive manner. Our program places a high value on the power of participation. Within our educational setting, every effort will be made to provide athletic experiences for as many students as possible. We will strive to offer as many athletic teams as can be adequately coached, managed, and supported while continuing to meet Title IX requirements. We urge parents to take an active part in the guidance and supervision of their son and/or daughter while supporting the school district in our endeavor to develop positive and productive citizens. Our

competitive teams will be selected on the basis of need, interest, and ability. We will place student-athletes on teams appropriate to their physical and emotional development. At the varsity level, our coaches will select players and decide playing time based on their assessment of appropriate skills along with factors appropriate to the sport that will make the team as competitive as possible.

The order of priorities for participants in School District #2 athletics are Scholar, Role Model, and Athlete. Those in the program will strive to attain the following traits in all three areas:

- Ability to set and achieve goals
- Self-confidence
- Competitiveness
- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Respect for Self and Others
- Commitment
- Leadership
- Self-discipline
- Ability to deal with adversity
- Sportsmanship
- Pride
- Responsibility
- Ability to communicate
- Work ethic
- Academic achievement
- Humility

We also hope that, during their high school extra-curricular experience, our student-participants will have fun, build fulfilling relationships in a healthy manner, and instill fitness for life as a core value. The product of the investment in activities will be healthy adults who contribute to their community in a positive manner.

Section 2.2 Intramural Level

All children should receive basic instruction in motor skills and sport activities through comprehensive physical education programs. We believe that such programs facilitate the skills and knowledge necessary to support an active, productive, and healthy lifestyle. Intramural and other physical activity programs extend and complement physical education to ensure that all children are provided the opportunity, regardless of athletic skills, to participate in lifetime physical activity that can contribute to their enjoyment of leisure time.

Goals of the intramural program: Provide activities in a safe and professionally supervised environment. Nurture healthy competition, enjoyment, fair play, and teamwork. Provide an opportunity to participate in sport and physical activities without regard for high performance skill or ability. Establish a student-centered program that considers the needs and interests of all students.

Enhance social interaction and promote positive conflict resolution. Provide opportunity for co-ed and unified physical activity participation. Provide opportunities for students to experience a variety of physical activities that will contribute to an active lifestyle and enhance their leisure time.

Participation Expectations – Participation is open to all K to 8th grade participants (depending on the sport/activity being offered). Physicals are not required at this level. Gym clothes are encouraged but not required. The focus at this level is on building basic fundamentals and interest in the sport.

Playing Time Statement – Playing time is basically equal with regard to skill and ability. Behavior and the ability to get along with their peers may be factors that could limit participation.

Section 2.3 Lincoln Middle School Level

All children should receive basic instruction in motor skills and sport specific activities through the middle school athletic program. We believe that such programs facilitate the skills and knowledge necessary to support an active, productive, and healthy lifestyle. Middle school and other physical activity programs extend and complement physical education to ensure that student-participants are provided the opportunity to participate in lifetime physical activity that can contribute to their enjoyment of leisure time.

Goals of the Middle School program:

Provide activities in a safe and professionally supervised environment. Nurture healthy competition, enjoyment, fair play, teamwork, and rules of the sport. Provide an opportunity to participate in sport and physical activities with some regard for performance, skill, and ability. Establish a student-centered, competitive program that considers the needs and interests of all students with a focus on participation. Enhance social interaction and promote positive conflict resolution. Provide opportunities for students to compete at a moderate level with emphasis on team play, sportsmanship, and skill development.

Participation Expectations – Participation is open to all 6th to 8th grade gender specific participants (6th grade students will participate depending on the specific sport). Sports Physicals are required at this level along with all district approved paperwork, including immunization records. Gym clothes are required. This is a competitive arena and athletes will be selected and grouped based on their current level of skill and ability. Specific sports may hold tryouts to determine which students will be selected. The focus is on continuing to build an interest in the sport while focusing on skill development and a clearer understanding of rules and strategies of the sport.

Playing Time Statement – Playing time is guaranteed to those who are eligible, however, the amount of playing time may be determined based on skill and ability. Coaches will make this determination based on performance at practice, previous competitions, teamwork, skill development, comprehension and application of rules and strategies, leadership abilities, positive attitude, attendance, the safety of the individual athlete, and other determining factors. Behavior and the ability to get along with their peers may be factors that could limit participation. Skill level and attitude will be combined with the needs determined by the coaching staff to field each team.

Section 2.4 Green River High School Sub-Varsity Level

All student-athletes should receive basic and advanced instruction in motor skills and sport specific activities through the sub-varsity programs. We believe that such programs facilitate the skills and knowledge necessary to support an active, productive, and healthy lifestyle. Sub-Varsity and other physical activity programs extend and complement physical education to ensure that student athletes are provided the opportunity to participate in lifetime physical activity that can contribute to their enjoyment of leisure time.

Goals of the Green River High School Sub-Varsity Program:

Provide activities in a safe and professionally supervised environment. Nurture healthy competition, enjoyment, fair play, teamwork, and rules of the sport. Provide an opportunity to participate in sport and physical activities with a focus on performance skills, abilities, and competition. Establish a competitive program that considers the needs of sub-varsity level athletes while working to develop the varsity program. Promote high expectations of leadership and sportsmanship. Provide opportunity to compete at the highest interscholastic level.

Playing Time Statement – Playing time at this level is in **NOT** guaranteed regardless of seniority or experience. Each sub-varsity student-athlete will compete for playing time by demonstrating how they can best contribute to the competitive efforts of the sub-varsity team. The governing rules of the Wyoming High School Activities Association (WHSAA) will always be a primary consideration. Coaches will make this determination based on their performance from practice, previous competitions, teamwork, skill development, comprehension and application of rules and strategies, leadership abilities, positive attitude, attendance, the safety of the individual athlete, and other determining factors as stated in the team handbook. Skill level, attitude, competitive ability, and maturity will be combined with the needs determined by the coaching staff to field a competitive group. Specific sports may hold tryouts to determine which students are selected. Varsity level competitors will be determined by the coaches within each individual program and addressed in their team handbook.

Section 2.5 Green River High School Varsity Level

Student-athletes should receive basic and advanced instruction in motor skills and sport specific activities through the varsity programs. We believe that such programs facilitate the skills and knowledge necessary to support an active, productive, and healthy lifestyle. Varsity and other physical activity programs extend and complement physical education to ensure that student-athletes are provided the opportunity to participate in lifetime physical activity that can contribute to their enjoyment of leisure time.

Goals of the Varsity Program: Provide activities in a safe and professionally supervised environment. Nurture healthy competition, enjoyment, fair play, teamwork, and rules of the sport. Provide an opportunity to participate in sport and physical activities with an emphasis on high performance skills, abilities, and competition. Establish a competitive program that considers the needs of varsity level athletes. Promote high expectations of leadership and sportsmanship. Provide opportunity to compete at the highest interscholastic level.

Playing Time Statement – Playing time at this level is in **NO WAY** guaranteed, regardless of seniority or experience. Each varsity student-athlete will compete for playing time by demonstrating how they can best contribute to the competitive efforts of the varsity team. Coaches will make this determination based on their performance from practice, previous competitions, teamwork, skill development, comprehension and application of rules and strategies, leadership abilities, positive attitude, attendance, the safety of the individual athlete and other determining factors as stated in the team handbook. Skill level, attitude, competitive ability, and maturity will be combined with the needs determined by the coaching staff to field the most competitive group possible. Specific sports may hold tryouts to determine which students are selected. Varsity level competitors will be determined by the coaches within each individual program.

Article 3 Required Forms & Paperwork

Section 3.1

Green River High School:

Proof of Immunization must be on file

*Those students who have attended public school their entire school career – this is in place.

*Those students who have not attended Public School their entire career must provide documentation.

Concussion Information Form

This form provides information for coaches, athletes, and parents regarding the identification protocol for dealing with concussions. This form can be found on the Arbiter on-line athletic registration system.

SWCSD#2/WHSA Adopted Physical Form and Form Notice - which must include the following:

Student must have a current physical in order to practice or participate. The physical must be dated **May 1st or after of the school year of participation**. The physical must be signed by a certified physician or PA, parents/guardians, and student-participant. This must be on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate.

***Special Note:** Sweetwater County School District #2 **DOES NOT** provide medical health or accident insurance benefits for students who choose to participate in school sponsored activities programs.

Medical Insurance must be provided in order for the student to participate. For those students who have no medical insurance, the School District can provide information on affordable and seasonal accident insurance.

Medical Release/Consent/Assumption of Risk Forms

This will include all contact information for parents, designated adults other than parents, and an agreement that SWCSD#2 assigned personnel have the authority to seek medical treatment in the event of injury. There is an assumption of risk when participating in any activity/sport that participants and parents must acknowledge. These forms can be found on the on-line athletic registration system.

WHSA Eligibility Rules Review Form

This document is required by the Wyoming High School Activities Association – it is a review of general and specific requirements to compete at the state level as well as information regarding students in

good standing, grades, changing schools (transfer), semester rules, age limits, physicals, amateur status, practice days, assumed names, undue influence, independent teams, and camps. This form can be found on the Arbiter on-line athletic registration system.

Student Participation Agreement/Activities Contract Form

General overall expectations. This document is signed by both the Students and the Parent/Guardian. This form can be found on the Arbiter on-line athletic registration system.

Section 3.2

Lincoln Middle School (Elementary Schools as needed):

Proof of Immunization must be on file

*Those students who have attended public school their entire school career – this is in place.

*Those students who have not attended Public School their entire career must provide documentation.

Concussion Information Form

This form provides information for coaches, athletes, and parents regarding the identification protocol for dealing with concussions. This form can be found on the Arbiter on-line athletic registration system.

SWCSD#2 Physical Form and Form Notice - which must include the following:

Student must have a current physical in order to practice or participate. The physical must be dated **May 1st or after of the school year of participation**. The physical must be signed by a certified physician or PA, parents/guardians, and student-participant. This must be on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate.

***Special Note:** Sweetwater County School District #2 **DOES NOT** provide medical health or accident insurance benefits for students who choose to participate in school sponsored activities programs. Medical Insurance must be provided in order for the student to participate. For those students who have no medical insurance, the School District can provide information on affordable and seasonal accident insurance.

Medical Release/Consent/Assumption of Risk Forms

This will include all contact information for parents, designated adults other than parents, and an agreement that SWCSD#2 assigned personnel have the authority to seek medical treatment in the event of injury. There is an assumption of risk when participating in any activity/sport that participants and parents must acknowledge. These forms can be found on the on-line athletic registration system.

Student Participation Agreement/Activities Contract Form

General overall expectations. This document is signed by both the Students and the Parent/Guardian. This form can be found on the Arbiter on-line athletic registration system.

Article 4 Transfer Students

Section 4.1

The Head Varsity Coach is responsible for identifying those students participating in their activity that have transferred to the district. Incoming Freshmen do not apply unless they enroll after the first 20 days of school in the fall. These are students who did not attend Green River High School or Expedition Academy during the spring semester the previous school year. The Activities Office should be notified immediately of those students who are/may be considered transfers.

Section 4.2

Foreign Exchange Students – Those Transfer Students who are attending on a certified Foreign Exchange Program must have the appropriate paperwork regarding Green River High School and the WHSAA approved Forms on file prior to the student being able to participate.

Section 4.3

The SWCSD#2 Home School Agreement Form – Must be completed, approved, and on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate. These forms can be acquired at the Activities Office.

Section 4.4

WHSAA Affiliate Home School Form – Must be completed, approved by the WHSAA, and on file at the SWCSD#2 Activities Office. This form can be found on the WHSAA Official Web Page at www.whsaa.org under General Links, Forms, and Affiliate Home School Membership Form. This form **MUST** be completed and approved by the WHSAA before the first practice of the appropriate fall, winter, or spring season. Affiliate Membership is for the current school year only. **The Affiliate Membership Fee along with the Catastrophic Insurance Fee** for each participant from the particular Home School is required prior to participation.

***NOTE:** The Affiliate Membership Fee required by the WHSAA is waived if the participants from that home school will be participating at the Middle School Level only. The Catastrophic Insurance Fee will still be required. A copy of the completed document along with the approval letter from the WHSAA must be on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate.

Section 4.5

Student-Participant must have a Physical – The physical must be dated May 1st or after of the school year of participation. This must be on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate. **Special Note: All students must provide proof of medical insurance prior to participating.**

Section 4.6

Student-Participant must have Proof of Immunizations – This must be on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate.

Section 4.7

Fees expected from all participants of that activity will also apply to Home School participants. There will **NOT** be additional fees assessed to Home School participants that are not expected by all other participants in the activity. All school, team, and district expectations will apply to home school participants. **These will include but are not limited to** – Riding to and from events, attendance at practices, games, and eligibility, etc.

Section 4.8

An eligibility program will be developed and is the responsibility of the Home School. Weekly notification is expected.

Section 4.9

The WHSAA Combination School Agreement Form – must be completed, approved, and on file in the Activities Office before the student will be allowed to participate. This form can be found on the WHSAA Official Web Page at www.whsaa.org under General Links, Forms, and A1 Combination School Agreement Form.

Article 5 Varsity Lettering

Section 5.1

Letters are awarded at the Varsity Level only. Every activity is unique. Having a specific set of rules that apply to each of these in the exact same way is impossible.

Section 5.2

Specific requirements for each activity shall be determined by the Head Coach/Sponsor after consultation with the Activities Director. The criteria for lettering in each sport/activity must be on file in the Activities Office before the beginning of each season.

Section 5.3

These letter requirements must be reviewed with the parents and students at the opening meeting for the season and listed clearly in the team handbook.

Article 6 Attendance

Section 6.1

Practice and Contests – Attendance is Mandatory

When possible, absence from practices or contests must be approved by the Coach/Sponsor prior to such absence. The participant who is planning to miss should consult with the head coach in person **PRIOR** to missing. Unexcused absences can result in suspension from competition or extra workouts to make up for the absence. Repeated unexcused absences (two or more) will result in disciplinary action. Such action may include suspension from contests or dismissal from the squad/team. **The Principal or his/her administrative designee will make the determination on Faculty Excused absences.**

Section 6.2

Leaving on Trips – Students must be in school the entire day prior to leaving on a trip.

Administration can make exception for cause, such as Faculty Excused absences or prearranged circumstances. The student may not be allowed to travel or compete if any class is missed prior to leaving on a trip without administrative approval. Students must remain in class until the scheduled dismissal time. Coaches are responsible for checking attendance prior to departure. The last scheduled school day will be considered when involving weekend or non-school day participation.

Section 6.3

Returning from Trips – Students are expected to be in their first scheduled class following a trip. Failure to be in class can be considered a violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action.

Section 6.4

Activity Suspension – Building policy will be administered according to each Building Administration. Students are allowed to practice pending Building and Activities Administration approval based on the circumstance. Those who are NOT allowed to practice for the duration of a 21 Day, 14 Day, or 7 Day Activity Suspension will either be removed from the squad or begin their practice requirements as per WHSAA Rule 5.10.2 upon their return. This decision will be made in conjunction with the Building Administration, Activities Director, and the Head Coach.

Section 6.5

Activity Participation in Relation to Student Absences – Students who are absent for the day will not participate in any school activities for that day or evening. The school classifies absences as excused (approved) or unexcused (unapproved). Students should be in school the entire day in order to be eligible to participate in contests. This includes illness, doctor visits, sleeping-in, etc. Students who miss any part of the scheduled school day must obtain permission from the Activities Director or Building Administrator prior to participation in contests. No participation in practice is allowed if the student misses more than half of the scheduled school day or has an un-verified absence. Administration may rule on extreme hardship cases for all issues of Attendance. Faculty Excused, Activity Excused, or Pre-Approved absences by the Activities Director or Building Administrator do not apply. An exception may be made for a student currently on homebound/hospital instruction, who is not a student with a disability, if prescribed by a physician and approved by the Building Administration. For qualified students with disabilities, a determination of activity participation in relation to student absences will be addressed in the student's IEP or Section 504 Plan. A student whose absence is unexcused outside of the predetermined time frame based on building policy, will be ineligible to participate in school activities for that week. It is the coach's responsibility to check attendance daily.

Article 7 Eligibility

Section 7.1

PURPOSE: To Promote Educational Excellence Through Activities. To encourage activities participants to make a strong commitment to academics and activities. To encourage participants to conduct themselves in a manner which brings credit to themselves and the District. To promote the

development of self-discipline and high academic expectations. To encourage activities participants “to stay on target” for graduation.

Section 7.2

ACADEMIC STANDARDS:

WHSAA Standards: All WHSAA requirements for eligibility must be met. Students who do not meet the WHSAA minimum requirements will not be allowed to participate unless an appeal / hardship is granted by the WHSAA Executive Board. Appeals and Hardships will be considered for extreme cases only. Cumulative grades will be used to determine WHSAA eligibility. At the end of each semester, both quarter and semester grades will be used. These standards apply to all WHSAA sanctioned events as well as any event participated in as per school representation during the school year.

District Standards: In addition to the WHSAA eligibility standards based on cumulative grades referenced above, the District requires every student to have a passing grade in every course he/she is enrolled as determined on a weekly basis to be eligible to compete in extra-curricular activities.

Eligibility will be checked by the High School/Middle School Office on the morning of the first day of each week. The High School or the Middle School Office will prepare a list of students who have one or more failing grades (F), an unsatisfactory (U), or an incomplete (I). Coaches and Sponsors will be notified of those participants in jeopardy of being ineligible. Students with an F/U/I will have until 4 PM on the fourth day of the week to bring all grades up to passing. Documentation via signed document or e-mail by the instructor must be provided to the Coach/Sponsor. It is the student’s responsibility to confirm that the Coach/Sponsor has received notification on or before the assigned deadline. It is the Coach/Sponsor’s responsibility to be sure each participant knows the appropriate procedure. A grade equivalent is determined from the average of all assigned, collected, and entered grades in Infinite Campus. Any student currently on Homebound/hospital instruction and cleared to participate in extra-curricular activities, who is not a student with a disability covered by a Section 504 Plan or IEP, must meet the intended outcomes of their Homebound Instruction plan. A student withdrawing from a class of W/F will not be penalized if he/she is maintaining required WHSAA credit hours for the semester. Eligibility for a qualified student with a disability on an IEP or Section 504 Plan is determined by the student’s IEP or Section 504 team.

As of 4 PM on the fourth day of the week, any F/U/I grade in a course will result in a student being ineligible to compete in extra-curricular activities for the following week Sunday through Saturday. This ineligibility is for competition for which the student would otherwise be eligible in the current season or the season immediately following the grading period, or a combination thereof. Practice may be allowed, however, dressing out in uniform and travel will not be allowed. The Coach/Sponsor will provide to the Activities Office and Building Administration a complete list of those who were marked ineligible, those that cleared up their grades, and the appropriate documentation by 8:00 am the next school day following the deadline or at an agreed upon time set by the Activities Director and/or Building Administrator. **The District Activities Director or Building Administration has the authority to make exceptions to the above policy on a case-by-case basis depending on the student’s unique circumstances and needs. The IEP or Section 504 Team will make the decision regarding exceptions to the above policy for qualified students with disabilities.**

Section 7.3

COACHES AND SPONSORS – are to encourage students to maintain passing grades through good study habits, to seek teacher help when needed, and to complete and turn in quality work for all assignments.

Section 7.4

HOMEBOUND/HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION - Subject to the WHSAA Rules and Regulations, students may be eligible to participate in extracurricular and non-academic programs if prescribed by a physician and approved by the Building Administration. Qualified students with disabilities on homebound/hospital instruction shall be given an equal opportunity for participation in extracurricular and non-academic programs. See Policy IGBG available at www.swcsd2.org or a physical copy may be obtained at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935.

Article 8 Transportation

Section 8.1 Under No Conditions May Students Drive District/School Vehicles other than for Pre-Approval for Drivers' Education

Section 8.2 All School Rules, Including the Code of Conduct, apply from the time Students arrive on Campus or the Departure Location until their arrival back in Green River or their Official Release to an Adult via the District Approved Process

Section 8.3 Activity Busses will Carry Assigned Staff and Students Only

Friends, spouses, or relatives who are not regular members of the class or group shall not be transported unless they become a designated sponsor. Pre-approval by a building administrator and/or the Activities Director is required prior to initial departure. At no time shall any pre-school age children be permitted on any trip.

Section 8.4

Students Riding to an Event: Students are expected to ride to and from each school contest in School District #2 approved transportation. Transportation to an event via any mode of transportation other than the scheduled bus/vehicle is prohibited. Extreme cases will be considered by the Activities Director and/or a building administrator and **MUST** be prearranged and documented in the Activities Office prior to departure. Any student who violates this provision will not be allowed to participate and is subject to disciplinary action.

Section 8.5

Students Riding Home from an Event: Riding home with THEIR parents (this form is signed at the event site following the contest). **Students are allowed to ride home with THEIR parents from contests providing:** Parents meet with the Head Coach / Sponsor at the activity sight. Parents must sign the proper documentation accompanying that Sponsor in the presence of that Sponsor. Parents should be prepared to provide identification. Students will be allowed to check out at the event with an immediate family member (grandparent, sibling, etc.) if this is pre-approved by the Parent with a Building Administrator or the Activities Director **Prior** to the trip. Riding home with another parent or a

direct family member requires that an Alternative Travel Form must be completed and approved prior to departure from Green River.

Provision can be made for students to ride home with parents of another team member or a non-direct family member of legal age providing the following conditions are met: The proper paperwork is completely filled out with the appropriate signatures in place and verified. The form has been approved and signed by the Activities Director and a Building Administrator. This must be completed and on file **PRIOR** to departure for the trip.

Article 9 School Sponsored Activities vs. City/Club/Travel Teams

Section 9.1

Outside Competition (Independent Team):

An independent team shall be defined as any team not directly sponsored by a WHSAA member high school. A student who is a member of a school sponsored athletic squad may not participate as a member of an outside team or as an independent competitor in the same sport during the same season. Students may not participate in a WHSAA sanctioned activity (non-athletic) and with an independent group in the same activity during the season for the activity. Violation of this rule shall make the student ineligible for the remainder of that sport's (non-athletic included) season unless he/she is reinstated by the WHSAA Commissioner. In addition, team and district sanctions could apply as per WHSAA rules and policies.

Section 9.2

EXCEPTIONS: Students may participate in the individual sports of skiing, tennis, track, indoor track, cross country, golf, swimming/diving, and wrestling while a member of the high school team with outside affiliations as long as permission has been given by the local school district. During the season, skiers are allowed the opportunity to ski USSA point races. Students may be able to participate with non-athletic teams at the same time and attend college auditions. Olympic tryouts are also permissible. A pupil may take part in a civic theater production and still retain eligibility for interscholastic competition provided that permission has been obtained from his/her school building administration. **Important Note:** if a student does participate in an outside event in the same sport listed above, that event will count toward their total event limit for that season as set by the WHSAA.

Article 10 Student Discrimination/Harassment

Section 10.1

Sweetwater County School District #2 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or any other applicable status protected by law, in the admission or access to, or treatment in employment in, its educational programs or activities.

Section 10.2

All persons have the opportunity to tryout and participate in and receive benefits from all programs or activities including, but not limited to, course offerings, graduation requirements, athletics, counseling, extracurricular, and other school-related activities.

Section 10.3

Discrimination/harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or any other applicable status protected by law is prohibited. The District is committed to taking any appropriate and feasible remedial action necessary to eliminate existing discrimination/harassment and its effects. The District will investigate all complaints of discrimination filed pursuant to its policies and procedures. The District is committed to taking affirmative steps to protect students and all others who participate in the investigation of complaints of discrimination from retaliation.

Section 10.4

The District requests students, parents, and staff to assist the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees in identifying barriers to a discrimination-free learning and working environment in our schools.

- Inquiries regarding discrimination may be directed to the designated Title IX Coordinator, Jason Fuss, at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935 (307-872-5502).
- Inquiries regarding Section 504/ADA, discrimination based on a disability may be directed to the Special Services Director, Alan Demaret, at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, Wyoming 82935 (307-872-5505).
- Inquiries not otherwise specifically addressed in this section may be directed to the District's Human Resources Director, Jason Fuss, at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935 (307-872-5502).

Section 10.5 Participation in Activities is Strictly Voluntary and is regarded as a Privilege

Students choosing to participate in activities agree to adhere to all specified guidelines.

Section 10.6 All Rules Will be in Effect for the Entirety of the Season

Section 10.7 Length of the Season

Middle School Level:

The length of season will be defined as the first day of practice for that activity and ending with the last day (following the final contest and any banquet or team awards celebration if organized).

High School Level:

The length of season will be defined as the first day of practice for that activity as stipulated by WHSAA or School District and ending with the culminating team function identified by the coach / sponsor (banquet or final team awards celebration).

Section 10.8 Students are reminded that All School Rules Apply

All school rules apply during travel as well as during the participation in the activity.

Section 10.9 Proper Dress and Grooming Guidelines

Appropriate for the respective activities, shall be required. These standards shall be set and then shared with participants by the individual activity sponsor.

Article 11 Hazing/Harassment/Bullying

Section 11.1

Team meeting with the Head Coach outlining unacceptable behavior will occur at the beginning of the activity. The coach will explain the consequences of participating in hazing, harassing, or bullying behavior.

Section 11.2

Hazing, Harassment, and Bullying are demeaning to all involved and is a most blatant form of discrimination.

Section 11.3

The coach will review any accusation of hazing, harassment, or bullying.

Section 11.4

If this matter cannot be resolved, the coach should refer the incident to the Building Administration and Activities Director. They will resolve the matter and apply appropriate consequences based on Building and School District policies. Hazing could include serious acts of harassment and/or bullying. If an Administrator determines through an investigation that hazing, harassment, or bullying took place, they will inform the Human Resource Director and Title IX Coordinator immediately.

Section 11.5

Team meeting with the Head Coach outlining unacceptable behavior will occur at the beginning of the activity. The coach will explain the consequences of participating in hazing, harassing, and bullying behavior. Students participating in any hazing incident shall be subject to rigid disciplinary action by the Sponsor and/or Administration and any legal ramifications if deemed necessary. This may include, but not be limited to, suspension or the removal of the participant/s from the activity with the possibility of the removal from all activities.

Article 12 Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco/Vapor Products

Section 12.1

This policy is relevant to students caught or admitting to using or possessing tobacco or smoking products, e-cigarettes or vapor products – regardless of the substance being used, possession or use of drugs (including performance enhancing drugs), or possession and/or use of alcohol during the season.

Section 12.2

This policy encompasses SWCSD#2 Elementary, Middle, and High School participants, including all approved home school participants, WHSAA joint agreement participants, and any student participating in school sponsored extracurricular activities. **All rules will be in effect for the entirety of the season.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL:

Policy to begin the first day of 6th grade and end the last day of 8th grade and will apply to school sponsored sports and activities including intramurals. The length of season will be defined as the first day of practice for that activity and ending with the last day (final contest of the season/banquet).

HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL:

Policy will apply the first day of scheduled practice their 9th grade year and continue through completion of 12th grade. The length of season will be defined as the first day of practice for that activity as stipulated by WHSAA or the School District and ending with the culminating team function identified by the coach/ sponsor (banquet or final team awards celebration). Incoming freshmen start with a clean slate regardless of Middle School history. **Placement of Incoming Transfer, Home School, and Foreign Exchange Students as to what Level they will start will be determined by the Activities Director and the Building Administration.** The school guidance office will follow-up with the previously attended school and verify any violations prior to transfer.

WHSAA rule - 6.4.93: States that a student who would be ineligible in a member school because of disciplinary reasons or expulsion, may not become eligible by transferring to another member school. A student who is ineligible for any reason in a member school or affiliate member school may not become eligible by transferring to another member or affiliate member school.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Article 12 applies to all qualified students with disabilities and will be enforced in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Section 504 excludes from the definition of a student with a disability, and from Section 504 protection, any student who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs when the District acts on the basis of such use. Section 504's definition of a student with a disability does not exclude users of alcohol. However, Section 504 allows schools to take disciplinary action against students with disabilities using drugs or alcohol to the same extent as students without disabilities. Procedures for discipline of students with disabilities are fully set out in Policy JGD-JGE, available at www.swcsd2.org or a physical copy may be obtained at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935.

Section 12.3 Policy Levels for Violations of Article 12:

Level I

1. First Offense in a four year period
2. Second Offense for those returning to Level I via successful completion of the Buy Back Program
3. Transfers – Home School – Foreign Exchange placed by Administration (based on prior incidents verified through the previous school).

Consequences:

- Student will be removed from the Activity for the remainder of the season.
- Student will forfeit all letters, honors, and awards for that season
- Next offense will be at Level II – unless the Student & Parent / Guardian choose to participate in the onetime only Buy Back Option

Level II

1. Second Offense in a four year period and opted not to participate in the Buy Back Program
2. Third Offense in a four year period and have successfully completed the Buy Back Program
3. Transfers – Home School – Foreign Exchange placed here by Administration (based on prior incidents verified through the previous school).

Consequences:

- Student will be removed from all Extra-Curricular Activities for a period of 1 Calendar Year.
- Student will forfeit all letters, honors, and awards for that season
- Next offense will be at Level III

Level III

1. Third Offense in a four year period and opted not to participate in the Buy Back Program
2. Fourth Offense in a four year period and have successfully completed the Buy Back Program
3. Transfers – Home School – Foreign Exchange placed here by Administration (based on prior incidents verified through the previous school).

Consequences:

- Student will be removed from all Extra-Curricular Activities for the remainder of the four year period.
- Student will forfeit all letters, honors, and awards for that season

Buy Back Program:

1. This is available to first time offenders in Level I only
2. This is a ONE TIME offer in the four year period.
 - a. If the student/parent opt NOT to participate in the Buy Back Program - move to Level 2
 - b. If the student/parent accepts the Buy Back Program and:
 - i. Successfully Completes **All** the criteria – student moves back to Level 1
 - ii. Does NOT complete the program – Moves to Level 2

Criteria:

1. 21 Day Activity Suspension (Activity Suspension reduced to 14 Days under the Buy Back program)
 - a. The Student will not compete, travel, or perform in any capacity other than practice for a period of 14 Days regardless of the amount of contests / performances involved in that period.
2. Risk Survey
 - a. The Student will complete a District approved Risk Survey
3. Awareness Program
 - a. The Student will complete the SWCSD #2 approved Awareness Program:
 - i. Administered through the Guidance office or Activities Office of the respective school
 - ii. Supervised by the appropriate Guidance Counselor or the Activities Director
 - iii. Student must successfully complete the program in the timeline set by the Building Administration, Activities Director, and Guidance Office
 - iv. Student will participate in the program on their own time – no classroom time will be taken to complete the course.

Option: Parents have the option to enroll their son/daughter in an alternative Awareness Program:

- i. The alternative program must be approved by the Building Principal, Activities Director, and the Assistant Superintendent
- ii. All expenses of the program will be the responsibility of the family
- iii. A time line and reporting process will be agreed upon prior to enrollment

4. Periodic Drug Testing

- a. The Student will agree to periodic Drug and/or Alcohol testing:
 - i. School District will provide the testing materials such as Dip test, breathalyzer, etc.
- b. This will be an agreement for the remainder of the four year period
- c. Testing can be performed at any time, weekends included, that the student is participating in any sport or activity.

If the Student Tests Positive – They will incur the consequences for the current Level

Refusal to comply with the any component of the Buy Back Program or failure to complete components in the agreed upon timeline will result in the immediate application of consequences for the appropriate Level.

***NOTE:** The Buy Back Program will **NOT** override school discipline – all consequences applicable to the standard school protocol will apply – suspensions, expulsions, etc.

Article 13 Discipline Protocol

***NOTE: All Minor, Moderate, Serious, and Severe Violations that occur during an Activities Season (as defined in this Handbook), both on and off campus/school grounds, are subject to this Discipline Protocol and are considered a violation under the terms of this policy.**

***SPECIAL NOTE: ACTIVITIES SUSPENSION – Activities suspension encompass events that are scheduled outside of the academic school time. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: extra and co-curricular activities, sporting events, banquets, dances, theater performances, band and choir performances, field trips, and graduation ceremony. During an activity suspension, a student may be allowed to participate in practice.**

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The discipline protocol for qualified students with disabilities may be found in Policy JGD-JGE, available online at www.swcsd2.org or a physical copy may be obtained at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935.

Section 13.1

Minor/Moderate Violations (any rules infraction not covered in Serious/Severe Violations):

The Coach/Sponsor should handle these violations on an individual basis. If more than one individual from a team/activity are involved in a minor violation, consequences can be different for each individual involved depending on that individual student's specific level of involvement and/or the specific student's past cumulative record of policy violations and other factors. Parents/Guardians will be made aware of a minor violation immediately by the Coach/Sponsor of that sport or activity. Coach/Sponsor will document and report all violations to the Activities Director and Building Administration. Consequences should be consistent with team rules as outlined by each activity. Minor violations can

result in suspension from one or more competitions/events depending on the type of violation and the student's history of violations and/or other factors. Repeated violations can result in removal from a team or activity. If a violation under this section occurs during school, the school building handbook and any discipline matrix in that school handbook will be applied by the school building administration. The consequences applied from the school building handbook do not automatically supersede or take place/precedence over the policies in this handbook.

Section 13.2

Serious and Severe Violations – Any Illegal/Criminal activity or other activity in direct violation of the Training Policy: To include, but not limited to the Possession or use of chewing tobacco, smoking tobacco, or any smoking substance of any kind, alcohol, drugs, or weapons, theft, extortion, vandalism, and destruction of property. In addition, the use and/or possession of all vapor and e-cigarette devices, regardless of the substance being used, will be considered a major violation under the terms of this policy. Assault, vandalism, physical and/or sexual harassment, and other major crimes as determined by law enforcement to be illegal fall under major violations in this handbook. The student is to be suspended from the activity IMMEDIATELY and the Activities Director and School Administrator should be notified. If a violation under this section occurs during school, the school building handbook and any discipline matrix in that school handbook will be applied by the school building administration. The consequences applied from the school building handbook do not automatically supersede or take place/precedence over the policies in this handbook.

Section 13.3 The Coach/Sponsor has the Authority to Remove any Participant from the Squad for any of the following, but not limited to:

Violation of team rules, Major discipline violations, Violations of the Activity Participation Agreement, Repeated minor violations, and Insubordination.

Section 13.4 Coach/Sponsor Removal of a Student from the Team - Protocol

Communicate a clear rational for the dismissal to the following:

The Student-Participant *Provide a clear explanation in person if possible.

The Parents/Guardians *Phone call or visit in person - giving clear rational for their dismissal should be communicated.

The Activities and Building Administration *Phone call or visit in person - giving clear rational for their dismissal.

Section 13.5

APPEAL PROCESS for Coach/Sponsor Removal - the student has a right to appeal a dismissal from a team or activity:

The student, or parent of the student, must contact - in writing - the Activities Director or Building Administrator. The time line for this written appeal is within **48 hours** of dismissal. A hearing may be conducted. Attending the hearing will be the removed/dismissed student, his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), the District Activities Director, one Building Administrator, one teacher, and two other District Staff Members (as assigned by the District Activities Director). The Activities Director or his/her designee will

be responsible for organizing this meeting as they deem necessary, or upon the request of the parents. In the event the parents or student-participant choose to forfeit the option of this hearing, dismissal will result. The Activities Director or his/her designee will conduct the hearing. The charges against the student will be presented, as well as the rule(s) and/or policy(s) which the student has been accused of violating. The student will then be allowed to present their side of the situation (Due process rights). The Activities Director or his/her designee and/or Building Administrator will rule on the charges in a timely manner. The parents, student, and coach/sponsor will be informed of the ruling as soon as possible. Until the final ruling is delivered, the student will not practice or participate/play in any games/events.

Article 14 Chain of Command

Section 14.1 **This Chain of Command should be utilized by Parents/Guardians for issues regarding a student’s participation in activities and other school sponsored events:** 1. Assistant Coach/Sponsor directly related to the Issue – Resolution of issues should begin here if applicable. If a satisfactory resolution cannot be accomplished at this level, appeal to the Head Coach/Sponsor. 2. Head Coach/Sponsor - If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, progress to the Building Administration. 3. Building Administration - If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, progress to the District Activities Director. 4. District Activities Director - If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, progress to the Human Resource and Title IX Director. 5. Human Resource and Title IX Director - If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, progress to the Superintendent. 6. Superintendent - If the problem cannot be resolved at this level, progress to the District School Board of Education. 7. District School Board of Education – Final link in the Chain of Command.

For issues regarding a student’s participation in activities and school sponsored events related to discrimination/harassment, please refer to Article 10 of this Handbook and Policy AC (Nondiscrimination) available online at www.swcsd2.org or a physical copy may be obtained at the District Administration Building, 351 Monroe Avenue, Green River, WY 82935.

Article 15 Decorating School Property – Including School Busses

Section 15.1 Sponsors and parents will park outside of the gates of the Transportation Department while decorating the buses. Absolutely no markings or decorations on windshield, driver’s window, left or right side first passenger windows, door windows, rear windows, or any mirrors. No inside decorations that will hinder the driver’s view of the road, mirrors, or the loading or unloading of the students. No stickers inside or outside. No tape on windows or mirrors. Use window chalk only - no shoe polish. No markings or decorations on outer paint of the bus, including bumpers. Specific questions can be directed to the School District Transportation Director if needed.

Article 16 Fundraising

Section 16.1

All fundraising activities by groups or teams of School District #2 **must be pre-approved** as per School District policy. Any fundraiser that will be asking local businesses for “Direct Donations” requires that the group or team seek approval from the Activities Director prior to completion of the standard

Fundraising Form. **FUNDRAISING FORMS can be obtained in any school office or on the SWCSD#2 District website.**

Section 16.2 Booster Clubs are an Extension of the Activity

The Coach/Sponsor should have no direct correlation with the expenditure of any funds from outside booster accounts. All Booster Clubs will be expected to adhere to all WHSAA, Title IX, and School District guidelines. **Note:** All School Sponsored organizations, sports, and activities programs will utilize their District approved fundraising account that is set up through the Activities Office. The District Activities Department can provide information on the proper processes and procedures that should be used for any/all fundraising events.

Green River High School and Lincoln Middle School Athletics Sports Registration Requirements and Information 2024-25 School Year (Form A)

Information on How to Register and Sign-Up for a Sport at LMS/GRHS (2024-25)

1. All students must have a completed WHSAA/SWCSD2 Physical Form dated after May 1st - 2024, turned in to the Main Office at LMS (for middle school sports) or at GRHS (for high school sports) prior to the first day of practice in order to participate. Physical Forms can be found on the GRHS or LMS websites under the Activities Department link or they can be picked up in the Main Office at LMS/GRHS.

2. **All students must use the Arbiter/MyFamily registration process to register “online” at the following link:** <https://students.arbitersports.com/organizations/sweetwater-county-school-district-2>

4. Here are some more links that may be of help:

SWCSD2 Main Webpage at –

<https://www.swcsd2.org/>

GRHS Activities Webpage at -

<https://www.swcsd2.org/o/grhs/page/activities-information>

LMS Activities Webpage at –

<https://lnms.swcsd2.org/o/lms/page/lms-athletics>

SWCSD2 Activities Handbook at –

<https://core->

[docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2770/GRHS/3349033/Participant Activities Handbook - Final - 2023.pdf](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/2770/GRHS/3349033/Participant_Activities_Handbook_-_Final_-_2023.pdf)

5. All students are required to provide proof of Medical Insurance prior to the first day of practice in order to participate. When you register on the Arbiter/MyFamily website, you can provide this information. The WHSAA/SWCSD2 Physical Form also provides an area for this information. The school district does **NOT** provide medical insurance. If you do not have medical/health insurance, the district can provide you with information on an inexpensive accident insurance program that can be purchased to meet this requirement.