



**2025-2026**

**ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**

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# **Mission Statements**

## **Iredell-Statesville School District Mission Statement**

We are a premier school system where students come first. All students will receive a high quality, relevant education in a safe and caring environment which will produce confident, responsible and globally competitive citizens. Our students will be college and career ready.

## **School Operations Mission Statement**

School Operations will provide high quality support that will enable all students to be rigorously challenged through coordination of all service departments.

## **Athletic Department Mission Statement**

The athletic department's mission is to provide opportunities for participation in competitive sports, where students learn the importance of sportsmanship, work ethic, priority setting, and teamwork. These values enable students to be better prepared for academic, physical, and social challenges.

# Athletic Handbook

**Dr. Jeff James**  
Superintendent

**Dr. Billie Berry** – [billie\\_berry@iss.k12.nc.us](mailto:billie_berry@iss.k12.nc.us)  
Deputy Superintendent 704-924-2024

**Bryan Paslay** – [bpaslay@iss.k12.nc.us](mailto:bpaslay@iss.k12.nc.us)  
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704-924-2027

<b><u>High Schools</u></b>	<b><u>Athletic Director</u></b>
LNHS	Shawn Cioffi
NIHS	John Sherrill
SHS	Dewain Clark
SIHS	David Lewis
WIHS	Mickey Jordan

<b><u>Middle Schools</u></b>	<b><u>Athletic Director</u></b>
TBS	Kirsten Jutila
EIMS	Jacob Mitchell
LMS	Marc Weston
NIMS	Chad Ward
OMS	Andrew Millaway
TCMS	Dana Speller
TMS	Chad Gallyon
WHMS	Robert Kozyra
WIMS	Kaylyn Chapman

## High School Athletic Directors Contact Info 2025-2026

SCHOOL	AD	CELL PHONE	EMAIL
LNHS	Shawn Cioffi	704-658-5620	scioffi@iss.k12.nc.us
NIHS	John Sherrill	704-437-0791	jsherrill@iss.k12.nc.us
SHS	Dewain Clark	704-775-2360	dewain_clark@iss.k12.nc.us
SIHS	David Lewis	704-880-2117	dlewis@iss.k12.nc.us
WIHS	Mickey Jordan	704-902-1695	mijordan@iss.k12.nc.us

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC DIRECTORS 2025-2026

SCHOOL	AD	CELL PHONE	EMAIL
TBS	Kirsten Jutilla	704-664-0770	kirsten_jutilla@iss.k12.nc.us
EIMS	Jacob Mitchell	276-288-4294	Jacob_mitchell@iss.k12.nc.us
LMS	Marc Weston	704-928-5973	Marc_weston@iss.k12.nc.us
NIMS	Chad Ward	704-450-2720	Chad_ward@iss.k12.nc.us
OMS	Andrew Millaway	336-244-7727	Andrew_millaway@iss.k12.nc.us
TCMS	Dana Speller	980-399-4534	dana_savoy@iss.k12.nc.us
TMS	Chad Gallyon	704-903-8386	charles_gallyon@iss.k12.nc.us
WHMS	Robert Kozyra	315-525-3962	robert_kozyra@iss.k12.nc.us
WIMS	Kaylyn Chapman	704-902-8912	Kaylyn_chapman@iss.k12.nc.us

## **Athletics Offered In Iredell-Statesville Schools**

The Middle and High School athletic programs are considered integral parts of the total school experience for students in our system and contribute much to the individual student's positive growth and development. The program offers a variety of thirteen organized athletic activities at the middle school level and thirty-one at the high school level in our county. Approximately one-third of our students are directly or indirectly involved in athletics or an athletic related activity. All participating students and schools must comply with the rules and guidelines of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, the North Carolina State Board of Education, as well as local policies.

### **High Schools**

#### **Fall**

Football  
JV Football  
Soccer (Boys)  
JV Soccer (Boys)  
Cross Country(Boys/Girls)  
Girls Tennis  
Girls Golf  
Girls Volleyball  
JV Girls Volleyball  
Cheerleading  
JV Cheerleading

#### **Winter**

Boys Basketball  
JV Boys Basketball  
Girls Basketball  
JV Girls Basketball  
Indoor Track  
Wrestling  
Swimming (Boys & Girls)  
Cheerleading  
JV Cheerleading

#### **Spring**

Boys Track  
Girls Track  
Boys Golf  
Girls Soccer  
JV Girls Soccer  
Baseball  
JV Baseball  
Softball  
JV Softball  
Boys Tennis  
Boys Lacrosse  
Girls Lacrosse

### **Middle Schools**

#### **Fall**

7<sup>th</sup>/ 8<sup>th</sup> Football  
Girls Volleyball  
Cross Country (Boys/Girls)  
Cheerleading

#### **Winter**

Girls Basketball  
Boys Basketball  
Wrestling  
Cheerleading

#### **Spring**

Girls Soccer  
Boys Soccer  
Baseball  
Softball

## ISS Coaching Allotments

### **ISS High School Paid Coaching Allotments:**

Football: 1 Head / 6 assistants

Cheer: 1 Varsity Head Coach/ 1 JV Coach

Soccer: 1 Varsity Head Coach / 1 JV Coach

Volleyball: 1 Varsity head Coach / 1 JV Coach

Cross Country: 1 Boys Head Coach / 1 Girls Head Coach

Tennis: 1 Head Coach

Golf: 1 Head Coach

Basketball: 1 Varsity Boys Head / 1 JV Boys Head  
1 Varsity Girls Head / 1 JV Girls Head

Wrestling: 1 Head Coach / 1 assistant

Swimming: 1 Head Coach / 1 assistant

Indoor Track: 1 Head Coach

Outdoor Track: 1 Boys Head Coach / 1 assistant  
1 Girls Head Coach / 1 assistant

Baseball: 1 Varsity Head Coach / 1 JV Coach

Softball: 1 Varsity Head Coach / 1 JV Coach

Lacrosse: 1 Head Coach / 1 assistant

## ISS Coaching Allotments

### **ISS Middle School Paid Coaching Allotments:**

Football: 1 Head Coach / 2 assistants

Fall Cheer: 1 Head coach

Volleyball: 1 Head coach / 1 JV Coach

Cross Country: 1 Head Coach/ (1 Assistant coach position if more than 20 runners)

Basketball: 1 Varsity Boys Head / 1 JV Boys Head  
1 Varsity Girls Head / 1 JV Girls Head

Wrestling: 1 head / 1 assistant

Winter Cheer: 1 Varsity /1 JV

Soccer: 1 Boys Head Coach / 1 assistant  
1 Girls Head Coach / 1 assistant

Baseball: 1 Head Coach / 1 assistant

Softball: 1 Head Coach / 1 assistant



## **HONORING GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP**

To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.

To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the game fairly.

To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.

To show cordiality to the visiting team and officials.

To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts.

To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.

To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.

To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment of the players on the team.

To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote physical, mental, moral, social and emotional wellbeing of the individual players.

To remember that an athletic contest is only a game and not a matter of life or death for players, coaches, school officials, fans, community, state or nation.

To avoid unfavorable criticism of other coaches and school officials, except to formally present to proper authority.

To report to the proper authorities matters which are detrimental to the welfare of the Athletic Program?

To study and practice the Sportsmanship Code of NCHSAA.

## **ISS ATHLETICS SPORTSMANSHIP PLEDGES**

### **Student Pledge**

As a student athlete, I know I am a role model. I understand the spirit of fair play while playing hard. I will refrain from engaging in all types of disrespectful behavior, including inappropriate language, taunting, trash talking, and unnecessary physical contact. I know the behavior expectations of my school, my conference, and the NCHSAA and hereby accept the responsibility and privilege of representing this school and community as a student athlete.

### **Parent Pledge**

As a parent, I acknowledge that I am a role model. I will remember that school athletics is an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for the students. I must show respect for all players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. I will participate in cheers that support, encourage, and uplift the teams involved. I understand the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship expected by our school, conference and the NCHSAA. I hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of good sportsmanship that comes with being the parent of a student athlete.

### **Coaches Pledge**

As a coach, I acknowledge that I am a representative of Iredell Statesville Schools and a role model! I understand that school athletics is an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for the student athletes. I will show respect to all players, coaches, officials, support personnel, and spectators. I understand the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship expected by the school system and the NCHSAA. I hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of good sportsmanship that comes with being a coach in Iredell Statesville Schools.

## Athletic Passes

**Free admission to regular season games with I-SS photo ID. VALID for all ISS employees.**

Current School Board members and other county officials designated by the Superintendent will be allowed into the regular season games free of charge.

Honor all N.C. Coaches Association and conference passes.

Gold Cards (Senior Citizens) will be admitted free to all Iredell-Statesville Schools events.

Admit uniformed rescue squad members and their spouses free of charge. Any other persons accompanying them must pay admission.

Team physicians and family members will be admitted free.

## **Athletic Participation in Non-Traditional School**

Iredell-Statesville Schools believes participation in athletics is a valuable part of a student's education. Because of the importance of school athletics, the district is committed to ensuring all students receive the opportunity to participate in sports. Below are the guidelines the district uses in determining where students who attend non-traditional schools participate in athletics.

### **International Baccalaureate Program Schools**

- Middle School
  - Middle school students at the I.B. schools will play sports at their “home” school (the school in the district in which they live) if the sport is not offered at the IB school.
- High School
  - Since the 2011-12 school year, IB high school students have been housed at South Iredell High School, and must play sports at South Iredell High School. This is a NCHSAA rule and there are no exceptions to this rule.

### **CCTL**

- Students of I-SS return to their “home” school for athletics due to the lack of athletic facilities available at Mitchell Community College

### **Crossroads (For full time early college students only)**

- Students participate in athletics at Statesville High School due to the location of the early college on Statesville High School’s campus

### **ASEC**

- Students Participate at North Iredell High School due to the location of the early college being on North Iredell High School’s campus

### **Magnet Schools (CATS,I-Academy, VISS)**

- Students return to their “home” school for athletics

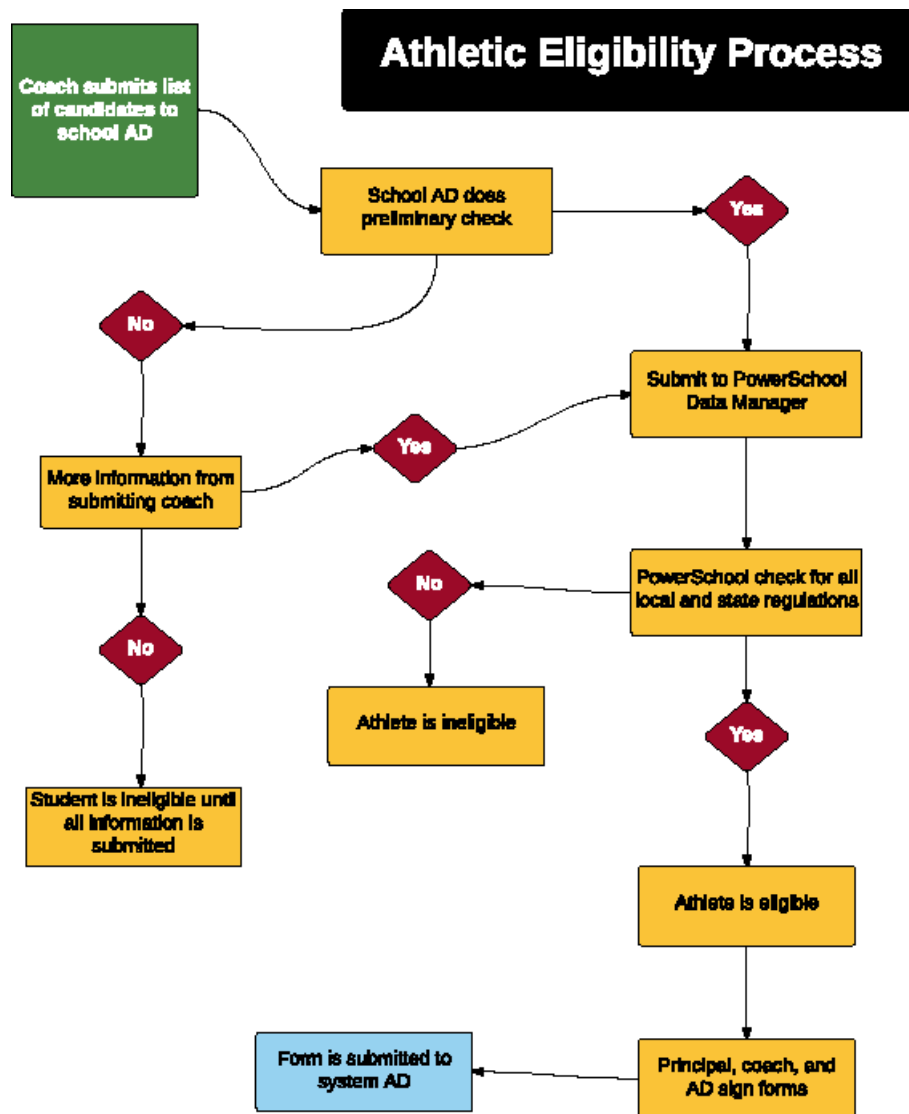
## **Student Transfers Within ISS**

After initial entry into ninth grade, and absent a bona fide change in primary residence, a student transferring from one school within the school system to another school within the school system will be ineligible to participate in athletics for a period of 365 calendar days. In the following situations, however, a student transferring from one school within the school system to another school within the school system will not lose athletic eligibility:

- A student returns to the school within their attendance zone from a choice school or program within the school system.
- If the student’s parent/guardian is a school system employee who transfers to another school, and elects to transfer their child to their new school.

## Athletic Eligibility Regulations for Student Athletes In High School

1. Must be a properly enrolled student at the time you participate, must be enrolled no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the present semester, and must be in regular attendance at the school.
2. Must have been in attendance for at least 85% of the previous semester at an approved school.
3. Must not have exceeded eight consecutive semesters of attendance or have participated more than four seasons in any sport since first entering grade 9.
4. Must not have graduated from high school.
5. Must be less than 19 years of age on August 31 of present school year.
6. Must live with your parents or others with whom you have resided continuously for a full calendar year within the school administrative unit (exceptions must be approved by your principal and the NCHSAA).
7. Must have passed a minimum of 70% of the courses taken the previous semester. Must meet local promotion standards.
8. Must have received a medical examination before participation in tryouts, practice, or athletic events. **The medical exam must be done once every 395 days by a duly licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant with no counter signature required.** For example, if a student receives more days due to illness or injury, he/she must receive a medical release by a duly licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant before being readmitted to practice and contests.
9. Must not accept prizes, merchandise, money, or anything that can be exchanged for money as a result of athletic participation.
10. Must not have signed professional contract, have played on a junior college team, or be enrolled and attending class in a college.
11. Must not participate in unsanctioned all-star or bowl games.
12. At the end of the sports season for a specific sport, that team is to be disassembled and cannot be reassembled until the end of the 180 day school year..
13. Must not be guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct.
14. May not usually, as an individual or on a team, practice or play during the school day (from first contest through conference tournament).
15. May not play, practice, or assemble as a team with your coach on Sunday.
16. May not dress for a contest or sit on the bench if you are not eligible to participate.
17. Must not play more than three games in one sport week, (exception softball and volleyball) and no more than one contest per day (exception baseball, softball, and volleyball)
18. May attend only those summer camps to which you or your parents paid the fees.
19. Middle school students promoted or transferred to the high school will be automatically eligible for the first semester at the high school- regardless of courses passed at the middle school.



**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
STUDENT-ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST**

**This form is to be used for student-athletes when questions have been raised about their eligibility during the completion of the NCHSAA Master Eligibility List, Parental Consent Form and the review of the NCHSAA Team Eligibility Checklist. This Eligibility Checklist is a guide and does not comprehensively ensure eligibility compliance.**

**STUDENT** \_\_\_\_\_ **GRADE** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPORT** \_\_\_\_\_

**Residency** \_\_\_\_\_

**(RECORD HOME ADDRESS)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Primary residence is in assigned district/attendance area **(if answer is "no", please note Below how assigned to school by LEA)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Is the address listed above the residence for the past 12 months? **(If the answer is "no" please note below former residence and how assigned to school by LEA)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Assigned to school by LEA

\_\_\_\_\_ Transfer \_\_\_\_\_ Accept & Release Forms (if appropriate)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please note reason) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student lives with biological parent(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Student lives with legal (court-ordered) custodian(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Student has attended current school past two (2) semesters

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please note) \_\_\_\_\_

**Attendance, Scholastic Requirement, Promotion, Age, 8-Semester Rule, Sport Season(s)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Student currently enrolled and attending this school

\_\_\_\_\_ Student had 85% attendance previous semester (less than 13.5 days in 90 day semester)

\_\_\_\_\_ Student is/will take minimum academic load each semester (must be credited courses)

\_\_\_\_\_ Student passed minimum academic load previous semester

\_\_\_\_\_ Student has met local promotional standards: **AD:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Coach:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DM:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Please initial)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Student will not turn 19 years of age on or before August 31 of current year

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth

\_\_\_\_\_ Year of 1<sup>st</sup> entry in 9<sup>th</sup> grade

\_\_\_\_\_ Student has/will not exceed four (4) separate seasons in that sport(s) w/ participation in the current year

\_\_\_\_\_ Student has not been convicted of a felony.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student has medical examination (365 day period through end of season)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Medical Examination

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Insurance

\_\_\_\_\_ School

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Custodial waiver

**Athletic Director** \_\_\_\_\_

**Coach** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal** \_\_\_\_\_

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
TEAM ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST**

**Review the items in this checklist to validate eligibility compliance for each student-athlete for the Sport of \_\_\_\_\_ on the Date of \_\_\_\_\_ when completing the Master Eligibility List and the Parental Consent Form. This Eligibility Checklist is a guide and does not comprehensively ensure eligibility compliance.**

**Residency**

- \_\_\_\_\_ School has a parental/legal custodian generated address for each student-athlete
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students not living at parental/legal custodian generated address have been researched for eligibility
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students not living in school's assigned district have been researched for eligibility
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students not domiciled with parents or legal custodian have been identified and researched for eligibility
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students not domiciled in assigned district/attendance area but have attended the current school the past two semesters have been identified

**Attendance, Scholastic Requirement, Promotion, Age, 8-Semester Rule, Sport Season(s)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Students are currently enrolled and attending this school
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students have 85% attendance previous semester (less than 13.5 days in 90 day semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students enrolled and will take minimum academic load this semester (must be accredited courses)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students passed minimum academic load previous semester
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student has met local promotional standards: **AD: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach: \_\_\_\_\_ DM: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please initial)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students will not turn 19 years of age on or before August 31 of current year
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students will not exceed four (4) separate seasons in that sport(s) with participation in the current year
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students have not been convicted of a felony
- \_\_\_\_\_ Students have received medical examination (365 day period through end of season)

**Note: The NCHSAA Student-Athlete Checklist should be used for student-athletes when there are questions about their eligibility status (residency or other eligibility issues).**

Athletic Director \_\_\_\_\_

Coach \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_



## **Iredell Statesville Schools General Athletic Guidelines and Procedures**

All Iredell Statesville Schools High Schools are members of the NCHSAA and are bound to follow all their guidelines, policies and procedures in the NCHSAA Handbook. An online version of the handbook can be obtained by going to the following.

<https://www.nchsaa.org/sites/default/files/attachments/NCHSAAHandbook2022-2023FinalJan2023.pdf>

**IREDELL-STATESVILLE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC  
PARTICIPATION FORM FOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

Both sides of this form are to be filled out completely and filed in the office of the athletic director before the student can participate in the school's athletic programs.

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #s: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_  
FAMILY PHYSICIAN \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

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**PARTICIPATION AND RANDOM DRUG TESTING PERMISSION**

(To be completed and signed by the student and parent/guardian)

I have read and reviewed the general requirements for high school athletic eligibility on the reverse side. I understand that additional questions or specific circumstances should be directed to the principal, athletic director, or coach.

I certify that the home address of parents shown above is my sole bona fide residence and I will notify the school's principal immediately of any change in residence, since such a move may alter the eligibility status of my child.

As a parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the rules of the NCHSAA, I hereby give my consent for his/her participation in interscholastic sports in the Iredell-Statesville school system.

I grant permission for first aid treatment deemed necessary for a condition arising during participation in these activities, and medical or surgical treatment recommended by a medical doctor. I understand that every effort will be made to contact me prior to treatment.

I also acknowledge that there is a certain risk of injury involved with athletic participation; even with the best coaching, use of the most advanced protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility and in rare occasions these can be so severe as to result in disability, paralysis or even death. It is impossible to eliminate the risk.

I agree to the need for a medical examination and I certify that the medical history on reverse side is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that failure to comply with NCHSAA policies and Iredell-Statesville policies that govern athletics are grounds for suspension and/or dismissal from athletic participation.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have chosen to participate in athletics during the current school year in the Iredell-Statesville School System. I understand that a copy of the Iredell-Statesville School's Drug Education and Testing Policy is available for my review, and I have received an explanation of the program. I desire to participate in the program as part of the interscholastic athletic program of the Iredell-Statesville School System and hereby voluntarily agree to be subject to its terms.

I understand that the testing is random but also that the coach can request testing based on reasonable suspicion.

As the custodial parent/guardian I understand and support the above contract between my child and the Iredell-Statesville Schools. I support the school system in its efforts to maintain the highest level of physical condition for my son/daughter and the system's efforts to discourage the use/abuse of drugs and alcohol. I understand that a copy of the policy is available for review.

I desire for my child to participate in this program and agree to have my child subject to its terms. I accept the method of obtaining urine samples, testing and analysis of such specimen, and all other aspects of the program. I consent to the disclosure of the sampling, testing and results provided for in the program as per the program. This consent is a waiver of non-disclosure rights of test records and results only to the extent of the disclosures authorized in the program.

I certify that the information in this application is correct, and I agree to abide by the eligibility rules and regulations governing athletics as set forth by the N.C State Board of Education, the NCHSAA, and the conference to which my school is a member.

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Student Athlete\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian\_\_\_\_\_

**IREDELL-STATESVILLE SCHOOLS  
ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION FORM FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Both sides of this form are to be filled out completely and filed in the office of the athletic director before the student can participate in the school's athletic programs.

STUDENT _____	SCHOOL _____
ADDRESS _____	GRADE _____
PARENT'S NAME _____	PHONE #s: (Home) _____
FAMILY PHYSICIAN _____	(Work) _____
	(Cell) _____

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**PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE**  
(To be completed and signed by the student and parent/guardian)

I have read and reviewed the general requirements for middle school athletic eligibility on the reverse side. I understand that additional questions or specific circumstances should be directed to the principal, athletic director, or coach.

I certify that the home address of parents shown above is my sole bona fide residence and I will notify the school's principal immediately of any change in residence, since such a move may alter the eligibility status of my child.

As a parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the rules of DPI, I hereby give my consent for his/her participation in interscholastic sports in the Iredell-Statesville school system.

I grant permission for first aid treatment deemed necessary for a condition arising during participation in these activities, and medical or surgical treatment recommended by a medical doctor. I understand that every effort will be made to contact me prior to treatment.

I also acknowledge that there is a certain risk of injury involved with athletic participation; even with the best coaching, use of the most advanced protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility and in rare occasions these can be so severe as to result in disability, paralysis or even death. It is impossible to eliminate the risk.

I agree to the need for a medical examination and I certify that the medical history on reverse side is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that failure to comply with DPI policies and Iredell-Statesville policies that govern athletics are grounds for suspension and/or dismissal from athletic participation.

I certify that the information in this application is correct, and I agree to abide by the eligibility rules and regulations governing athletics as set forth by the N.C. State Board of Education, the N. C. Department of Public Instruction, and the Iredell-Statesville Schools.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Student Athlete \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

## Permission for Release of Personal Information For Student Athletes

According to federal law, the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) enables our school district to release certain information about your child, including name, photograph, birthday, school, sports/clubs, honors, and awards.

Students and parents are afforded the opportunity during the first seven (7) days of the school year to opt out of having this information released.

As a student athlete, many opportunities exist for students to be included in media stories. Additionally, athletic directors and coaches often receive requests from colleges and universities regarding student athletes.

While this directory information is legally defined as public record, Iredell-Statesville Schools requires that parents and legal guardians provide written permission for a student athlete's directory information, including photograph, to be released.

If a parent or legal guardian declines to grant permission for a student athlete's directory information to be released, media coverage for the individual student athlete will not be permitted.

\*Group photos containing two or more students, with no additional identifying information, are considered directory information and will be released to media and other organizations requesting them.\*

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, give my permission to allow directory information, including name, photograph, birthday, and school activities, to be released about my child, \_\_\_\_\_, who attends \_\_\_\_\_. I understand that by agreeing to release this information, my child's name and photograph may appear in news stories and on school/district publications and websites. I also grant my permission for the school's athletic director and coaches to discuss my child's directory information with college and university recruiters should the opportunity arise. This release is valid for one year from the date of my signature.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Iredell Statesville Schools High School  
and Middle School Athletics Student  
Discipline Procedures.

**First Offense (one day only OSS):** The student may not participate in practice or play in a game on the day of OSS. This student is considered absent from school, but is not considered off the team. If the student serves a one day OSS, on a non-game day, the student **must sit out** the next scheduled game day.

**Second Offense (OSS):** Student is removed from the athletic team for the remainder of that sports season.

**Note:** *If the first offense is serious enough that the student is suspended more than one day, the principal may remove the student from the athletic team at that time.*

ISS (In School Suspension)

**Note:** *It is considered a day in ISS if the student is in ISS for 50% or more of the school day. Also, assignment to ISS can be for one or more days per offense.*

**First Offense (ISS):** Student cannot practice or play in a game on the day(s) in ISS.

**Second Offense (ISS):** Student cannot practice or play in a game on the day(s) in ISS. If the student misses a game while in ISS, he still must also sit out the next game that the team is scheduled to play and the principal may remove the student from the athletic team at that time.

**Third Offense:** Student may be removed from the athletic team for the remainder of that sport season.

Iredell-Statesville Schools  
Automated External Defibrillator Guidelines

1. All Athletic Trainers are required to be certified in CPR, First Aid, and AED. All Coaches and Athletic Directors are strongly encouraged to be certified as well.
2. The AED will be taken to the following athletic events by the Athletic Trainer, Head Coach, or Assistant Coach (designated by Head Coach) and returned to centralized location of school when event is complete:
  - All Middle School Home Athletic Events
  - All football practices (middle and high)
  - All High School Home Athletic Events and Away Athletic Events the Athletic Trainer attends
  - If multiple events are taking place – the AED should go to event in following order - Football, Basketball, Track, Soccer, Cross Country, Baseball, Wrestling, Tennis, Softball, and Volleyball (based on info from National Center for Catastrophic Injury – UNC-Chapel-Hill)

Each school is responsible for maintaining batteries. AED Batteries should be checked yearly and changed every 3 years. Each AED should have a label on inside cover of when batteries were checked, &/or changed and by whom.

An **automated external defibrillator** or **AED** is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient, and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm.

**NC Law**

Provides immunity for AED users, as well as trainers, owners and physicians who write prescription for AED purchase (effective 10/1/2000) and clarifies broad immunity from liability of volunteers using automated external defibrillators in emergency situations (effective 8/5/20)

# **IREDELL STATESVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **ACCIDENT INSURANCE ON MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES**

### **Summary of Insurance Benefits:**

Maximum Medical Benefit	\$25,000
Accidental Death Benefit	\$10,000
Accidental Paralysis Benefit	\$10,000
Crisis Death Benefit	\$10,000 up to \$100,000 aggregate
Deductible	\$0
Coverage	Secondary to other insurance, primary if none
Benefit Period	One Year from the date of injury
Initial Treatment	Within 60 days of injury
Room & Board	100% to \$150 per day
Inpatient Hospital Miscellaneous	100% to \$500
Outpatient Day Surgery Miscellaneous	100% to \$750
Physician's Visits	\$30 first visit then \$25 thereafter
Physiotherapy	\$30 first visit then \$20 thereafter 5 visits maximum
Medical Emergency	100% to \$150
X-Rays	100% to \$200
CAT Scan or MRI	100% to \$200
Laboratory	100% to \$50
Prescription Drugs	100% to \$50
Orthopedic Braces & Appliances	100% to \$75
Surgeon's Fees	100% to \$750
Anesthetist/Assistant Surgeon	20% of surgical benefit
Ambulance	100% to \$200
Dental	100% to \$100 per tooth



### **Special Notes:**

- This Accident Insurance policy paid by your district is **SECONDARY** coverage and pays after other insurance has paid. If there is no other available insurance, this accident insurance policy becomes primary.
- This Accident Insurance policy provides **LIMITED BENEFITS**. Parents may wish to consider purchasing the voluntary student Accident Insurance available online at [www.k12studentinsurance.com](http://www.k12studentinsurance.com).
- If a student has an accident a school administrator must complete and sign the designated area on the accident claim form. Then it is the parent or guardian's responsibility to complete the remainder of the claim form and return it, along with all itemized bills, to the claims office by email, fax or mail (addresses on the claim form).
- For questions pertaining to a claim contact the claims office at 1-866-409-5734 or at [K12claims@hsri.com](mailto:K12claims@hsri.com).
- This is only a summary of the benefits available under your district's student Accident Insurance policy. For complete details refer to the master policy on file at your district office. Any discrepancies between this summary and the master policy, the master policy shall prevail.



[www.younggroup.biz](http://www.younggroup.biz) 888-574-6288

## **Licensed Athletic Trainers and Athletic First Responders**

Each **high school** is required to have a licensed athletic trainer/sports medicine or a first responder on staff at the beginning of football practice. **Each middle school should have a licensed athletic trainer/sports medicine or a first responder at all MS Football games.** The school system will provide funds to pay the licensed athletic trainer/athletic first responder as per the Iredell-Statesville School athletic supplement schedule.

Each LEA must designate for each high school within its jurisdiction either a licensed athletic trainer who is qualified pursuant to Article 34 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes of North Carolina or a first responder. These persons may be employed on a full-time or part-time basis or may serve as a volunteer.

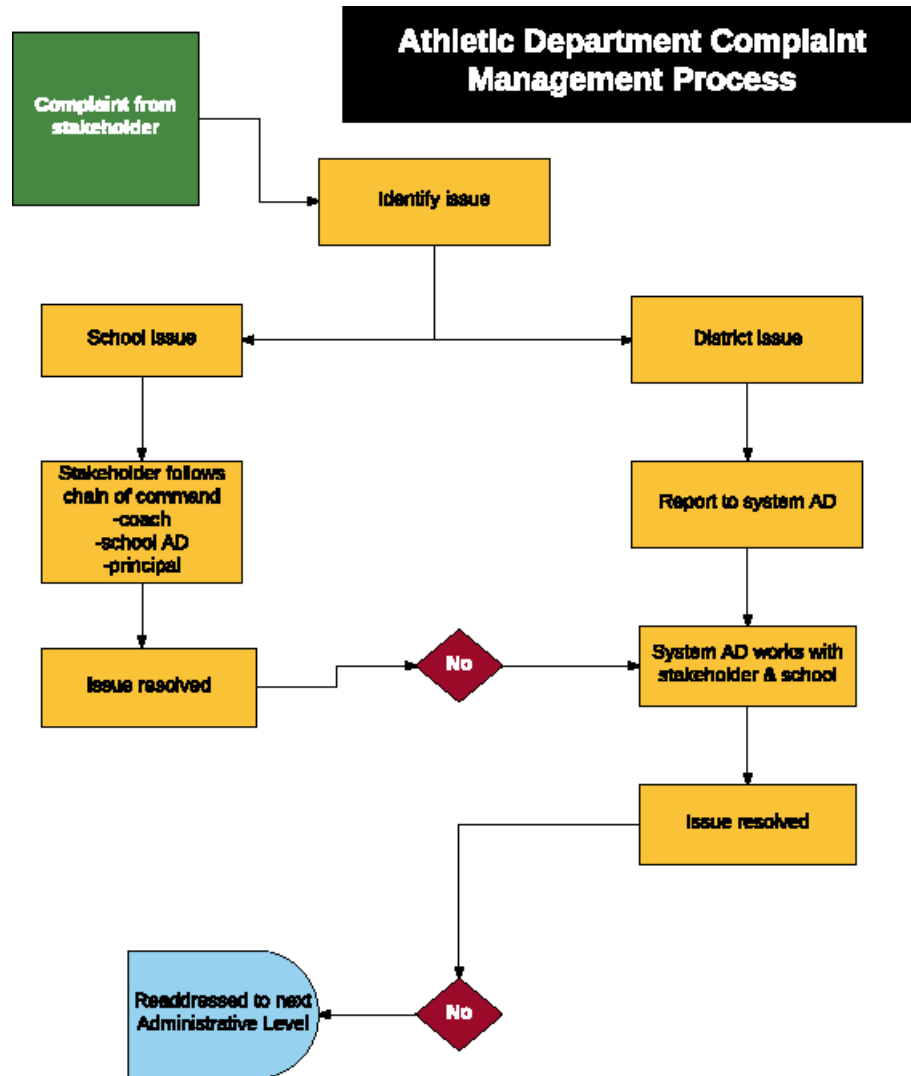
Any athletic first responder having been assigned the responsibilities of paramedical emergency life saving or sports medicine services shall have completed or be in the process of completing and maintaining certification in the following minimum education requirements:

1. Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation/AED – renewed annually
2. First aid
3. Injury Management (Level I, II & III)

In addition, each first responder must **complete 20 hours of staff development** in sport injury each school year.

The courses identified as minimum education requirements shall be courses developed by community service agencies or by the Department of Public Instruction and shall be approved by the Department of Public Instruction.

The licensed athletic trainer or first responder may not have coaching responsibilities during the season in which the person is working as a licensed athletic trainer or first responder. A licensed athletic trainer or first responder must attend all football practices and games, unless excused by the superintendent, superintendent's designee, or county athletic director due to an emergency.



## Practice for Teams

Practice may not take place until after the last regularly scheduled instructional period and after the end of the teacher workday. For example, practice may not occur until the end of the regular school day on teacher workdays or exam days. However, when the teacher workday ends early for some valid reason, practice may occur before the end of the regular scheduled day only if the superintendent or his designee gives permission.

There shall be no Sunday practice, game, or competition for the calendar year in any sport.

*(Exception: NCHSAA sponsored events)*

Practice time, especially after school, should be reasonable in length so that students will have adequate time to complete homework assignments.

All practices and regular season games are prohibited when the Iredell-Statesville Schools are closed due to weather related conditions. The superintendent or his/her designee may take an exception to this rule under certain unusual conditions.

All Student athletes must be counted as present in school for the day in order to participate in practices or games.

### Scheduling Priority

All Iredell-Statesville Schools will schedule athletic events in the following order:

1. Conference
2. Non-conference within the school system
3. Non-conference outside the school system
4. Private and Charter Schools must be a member of NCHSAA and receive permission from the district athletic director before being scheduled

**ALL SCHOOLS SHOULD USE THE  
ZELUS APP TO MONITOR AND FOLLOW  
ALL HOT WEATHER GUIDELINES**

## **Hot Weather Play and Practice Guidelines for High School Football**

In the Carolinas high schools initiate football practice during generally the hottest part of the calendar year. In order to get through this period without incident and provide athletes a rewarding experience, there are several guidelines recommended. Most of the following recommendations involve nothing more than being aware of and respecting the conditions of heat and humidity; monitoring all athletes closely; and modifying practice as necessary in response to weather conditions. The recommendations are:

- ❑ **REQUIRE A THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF ALL ATHLETES.** A complete history giving information relative to past heat-related problems should be included. This needs to be **IN HAND** before the athlete is allowed to set foot on the practice field.
- ❑ **EDUCATE PARENTS, COACHES, AND PLAYERS TO THE DANGERS OF HOT WEATHER PRACTICES. MAKE SURE EVERYONE CAN RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF THE VARIOUS FORMS OF HEAT.** Make sure coaches have a healthy respect for the heat and the toll it can take on the un-acclimatized athlete's body. On the field everyone should be watching the athletes for symptoms of heat problems. Athletic trainers, coaches, student trainers, and players alike should be alert for the signs of heat illness and seek medical attention for affected individuals when such are observed.
- ❑ **EDUCATE PARENTS OF THE NEED TO PROVIDE A WELL-BALANCED DIET FOR ATHLETES DURING HOT WEATHER PRACTICES.** Meals should include foods rich in potassium and calcium, and these minerals are frequently not in sufficient quantities during meals to replace that which is lost during a hot weather workout. Sodium can be replaced easily enough by adding extra salt (NaCl) to one's foods at mealtime. Salt tablets should not be given to athletes as they may actually contribute to heat stress problems. Potassium-rich foods include cereals, dried peas and beans, fresh vegetables, dried fruits (raisins, prunes, dates), fresh fruits, orange juice, watermelon, cantaloupe (perhaps the potassium-richest), sunflower seeds, and nuts. Drinking extra milk or eating greater quantities of dairy products can replace calcium. For the athlete with lactose intolerance, inexpensive calcium-rich dietary supplements can be taken. Fresh fruits and fruit juices should be maintained in ample quantity and players should be encouraged to eat and drink plenty during the early hot weather periods of football practice. Parents are advised to keep an ample quantity of some type of electrolyte beverage (ex. Gatorade) on hand and to encourage their son to drink plenty. Caffeinated beverages should be avoided, as caffeine, a diuretic and central nervous system stimulant would have a negative effect on the body's ability to cool itself. Alcoholic beverages seriously impair the body's ability to cool it and athletes should be emphatically cautioned against their usage. Athletes taking medications should make the athletic staff aware of this as well as any precautions that should be observed. Drugs (prescribed or other), often have an adverse effect on the body being able to cool itself.

## **PREVENTION OF HEAT ILLNESS**

- Hourly Wet Bulb Globe Reading (WBGT) starting 30 minutes prior to practice.
- As WBGT (or heat index) increases, minimize clothing and equipment.
- Provide unlimited drinking opportunities during hot practices. NEVER WITHHOLD WATER

<b><u>WBGT Index (F)</u></b>	<b><u>Heat Index</u></b>	<b><u>Athletic Activity Guideline</u></b>
Less than 80	Less than 80	Unlimited with primary cautions for new and Unconditioned athletes or extreme exertion Mandatory rest/water every 30 min. for 5 min.
80-84.9	80-90	Normal practice for athletes/monitor new or Unconditioned athletes and all during extreme exertion practice. Mandatory rest/water every 25 min. for 5 min.
85-87.9	91-103	New or unconditioned athletes should have reduced Intensity practice and modifications in clothing. Well Conditioned athletes should have more frequent rest breaks and hydration as well as heat illness monitoring. Mandatory rest/water every 20 min. for 5 min. Have cold or ice immersion pool on site for practice.
88-89.9	104-124	All athletes must be under constant observation and Supervision. Removed pads and equipment. Mandatory rest/water every 15 min. for 5 min. Have Cold or ice immersion pool on site for practice.
90 or above	125 and up	SUSPEND PRACTICE

❑ **PRACTICES SHOULD BE GRADUATED IN LENGTH AND INTENSITY.**

Acclimatization is critical, but needs to be accomplished through a gradual lengthening of practices and similarly increasing the intensity and workload during practices. Practices need to be scripted to include regular water and rest breaks, which are strictly adhered to by the entire coaching staff.

❑ **WATCH PLAYERS THAT MAY BE PREDISPOSED TO HEAT STRESS PROBLEMS.**

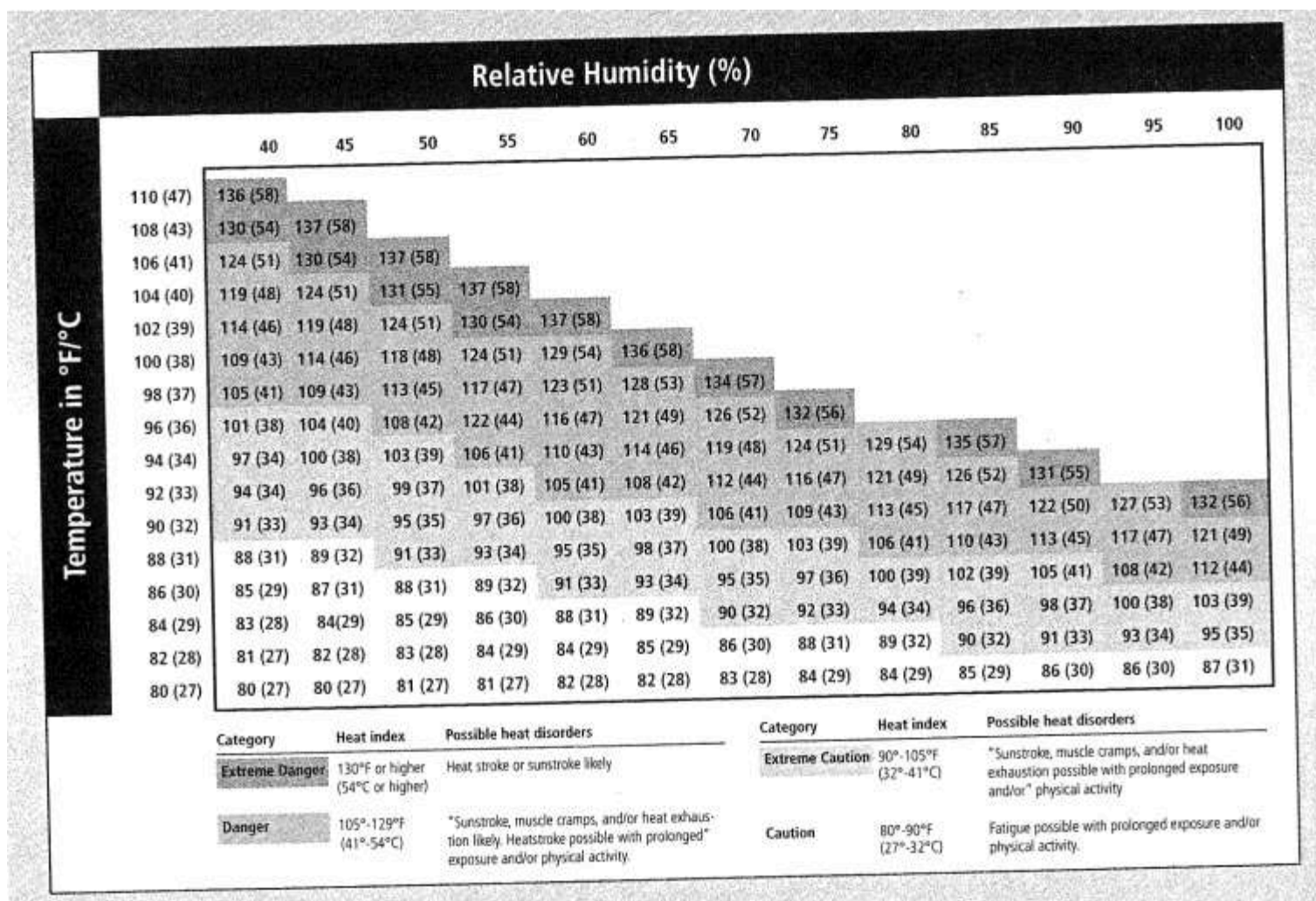
Watch all players certainly, but pay careful attention to the heavy and/or obese athletes, athletes that have recently lost a considerable amount of weight, fair-skinned-red headed athletes, athletes with a history of heat problems in the past, and athletes that have not taken part in summer workouts.

❑ **HAVE A SHADED AREA AVAILABLE.**

When an athlete becomes stressed by heat, he needs to be removed from direct sunlight. If your practice field does not afford any shade, you should investigate getting a portable tent to provide you some shade. Mist units, fans, and cold towels, are means of cooling an athlete rapidly, and one or more of these should be available. The mist units and fans can be purchased at reasonable prices and cold towels require only a small amount of one's time to prepare and can be kept in a cooler until needed.

The above are merely common sense solutions to a common problem in our area. It is possible to have hot weather workouts if we are mindful of the conditions, take the necessary precautions, and have the necessary medical help available. As difficult as it may be to call off practice due to the heat, it is no comparison to having to tell the parents of a child that died of heat stroke at or following one of your practices, why you felt it so necessary to practice.





### Temperature Risk Table

Temperature (°F)

<65°F	Low	Observe those athletes susceptible to heat illness, especially those obese.
65-73°F	Moderate	Unlimited amounts of water to be made available on the field. (Ice water will be preferable.)
73-82°F	High	All athletes should be under constant and careful supervision. Athletes should take breaks every 20 or 30 minutes. Replacing the student's fluid is very important. Lighten the practice routine or practice in shorts. It will be coach's choice to withhold susceptible players from practice.
>82°F	Very High	A shortened program conducted in shorts and T-shirts. Additional fluid replacement breaks are mandatory. Coaches may need to suspend practice if they deem necessary.

Lightening Guidelines  
"Lightening Kills, play it safe!"

- Lighting is the number one weather killer each year in the U.S.
- **North Carolina ranks second behind Florida in the United States in lightning fatalities each year. The National Weather Service states that lightning can strike up to a distance of 10 miles with the average storm traveling at a rate of 25 miles per hour.**
- Thunder can be heard over a distance of 10 miles depending on humidity, terrain, and other factors. **Therefore, if you can hear thunder you are in immediate danger.**
- Iredell-Statesville Schools feels that this is one situation that should not be taken lightly.

**Iredell-Statesville School District lightning guidelines are as follows:**

1. Plan ahead and have a safety plan. Know where people will go for safety and how much time it will take to get there.
2. Monitor weather forecast. If thunderstorms are forecasted, consider postponing activities.

Watch and listen for clues of impending danger. Look for darkening skies, flashes of lightning, or increasing wind, which may be signs of a developing thunderstorm. Listen for thunder.

3. **As soon as you hear thunder, suspend activity** and instruct everyone to get to a safe place. Substantial buildings provide the best protection. Avoid sheds, small or open shelters, dugouts, bleachers and grandstands. A hard topped metal vehicle with closed windows will also offer good protection.
4. Activity **can be resumed** after **½ hour of no thunder** and/or lightening.
5. **If you feel your hair stand on end, lightening is about to strike! There may be little to nothing you can do to keep from being struck. As a last desperate resort:**
  - a. **Crouch down** on the balls of your feet, put **your hands over your ears**, and **bend your head down. Make yourself as small a target as possible and minimize your contact with the ground.**

Administration of this policy is the responsibility of the administrators, athletic trainers, and coaches. When a situation arises where either of the above-mentioned parties feels the athletes are in danger he/she shall call the officials, visiting team head coach and trainer, and the administrator in charge and express their concern regarding the weather. The administrator in charge will have the authority to discontinue play until a safe environment is restored. The safe environment will not be compromised as a result of concerns over time or travel. The Iredell-Statesville School system feels safety of the student athletes is of the utmost importance.

## **Responsibilities of the Athletic Director**

The principal of each high school and middle school in the Iredell-Statesville School System is responsible for all activities of the school, including athletics. It is the responsibility of the principal to make final decisions in all matters pertaining to school activities. The following athletic policies will not lessen responsibilities but will delegate areas of responsibility to the Athletic Director and to the members of the athletic staff. The Athletic Director represents the school administration in matters pertaining to athletics and may need to vote at meetings at local, conference and state levels. When representing the school, the Athletic Director's vote should represent the thinking of the majority of the athletic staff, if possible. By working and planning together with the administration, athletic director, and athletic staff, we can continue to be among the best athletic programs in the state.

### **The Role of the Athletic Director**

1. To coordinate the coaching staff and the overall athletic program, including cheerleading.
2. To submit to the Principal the anticipated needs of the athletic program in each sport, and to see that each coach has the requested and approved equipment by the time specified.
3. To coordinate the expenditures of funds set up in the budget so that each sport will remain within the designated limits.
4. To manage and direct all home athletic events.
5. To make arrangements for all athletic events.
6. To arrange for the payment of all athletic debts, registrations, memberships, booking fees and game expenses to proper persons at the proper time.
7. To coordinate all athletic scheduling, send schedules to proper source including County Athletic Director, and approve athletic publicity for the school, and also any athletic rescheduling.
8. To request and maintain a file of athletic reports such as inventories, financial records, eligibility lists, team rosters, correspondence, records and blue prints of facilities, and to supply the principal with the same upon request.
9. To coordinate the preparation of copies of the State Eligibility Form for each sport to meet any deadlines. These forms are to be completed by the coach and signed off by the athletic director and principal. Approved forms should be on file with the athletic director at each school, and a copy should be sent to the system athletic director.
10. To approve purchases and orders of equipment and supplies. All orders should still be approved by the principal.
11. To coordinate the preparations, maintenance, and improvements of all areas used in athletic practice and contests. To work closely and cooperatively with the system's maintenance department.
12. To coordinate all areas of athletic concessions.
13. To assist the principal with:
  - a. Coaching changes (recommendations)
  - b. Interviews for hiring new personnel
14. Work with administration and bookkeeper to oversee the athletic ticket selling.
15. To act as a faculty consultant to outside organizations, such as Booster's Club, P.T.O., and other groups on matters pertaining to athletics.
16. To work closely with the schools' custodial staff.
17. To coordinate school-sponsored athletic banquet or banquets, and coordinate the awards program for all athletics.

18. To act, decide, and handle matters in such a way that will improve, strengthen, enlarge and foster the Department of Athletics at each school. **“Keep the Principal and County Athletic Director informed and communicate daily!”**
19. To ensure that every student-athlete, student trainer, manager, score keeper, cheerleader, etc. is enrolled in the accident insurance program.
20. To hold periodic coaching staff meetings to address pertinent issues, such as but not limited to: hazing, sportsmanship, required parent meetings (beginning of season), expectations, etc.
21. At the required parent meetings, Athletic Directors should be sure to cover the use of I-SS website for athletics & school’s website.
22. To ensure that all coaches meet NCHSAA’s guidelines and requirements for coaches annually.

## **Athletic Director Duties**

1. Safety
  - Heat Precautions
  - Lightning
  - Emergency Plan (practices and games)
  - Insurance
  - Risk Management (liability issues)
  - First Responder (requirements and update)
  - Game Security
  
2. Budget
  - Work with Finance Officer
  - Ordering Equipment/Uniforms
  - Purchase Orders
  - Bids
  - Inventories
  - Supplements/Contracts
  
3. Community
  - Boosters Club
  - Calendars
  - Programs
  - Recreation Departments
  - Other Organizations
  - Rescue Squads
  - Team Doctor
  
4. NCHSAA
  - Forms Book
  - Hand Book
  - Insurance
  - Eligibility
  - Ejections
  - Endowments
  - Scholar Athletes
  - Student Services
  - Play-off Advancements
  - Booking Agents/Officials
  
5. Off Season Programs
  - Skill Development/Dead Periods
  - Summer Camps
  - Weight Room

6. Facilities

- Field Maintenance
- Game Preparation
- Work Orders
- Athletic Facility Usage

Coaching Staff

- Staff Unity
- Coaches Equipment
- Coaches Meetings
- Coaches Rules Clinics

7. Schedules

- Send to System AD
- Send to Media
- Booking Agent
- Web Page
- Practice Schedules/Facilities

8. Game and Cancellations

- Rescue Squad
- Officials
- Media
- Announcements
- Visiting Team
- PA Announcer
- Clock Operators
- Gate Keepers
- Security
- Boosters Club
- ROTC
- Band
- Cheerleaders

9. Meetings

- Boosters Club
- Athletic Staff
- System AD
- Regional (NCHSAA)
- State (NCHSAA)
- Conference
- NCCA and Rules Meetings
- Pre-Season with Parents and Athletes

10. Daily and Routine Duties

- Duty Rosters
- Physicals (Set Up and Track)
- Public Relations
- NCHSAA Rules and Regulations
- Buses (Schedules and Shuttles)

11.

Other Responsibilities

- Letters, Pins, etc.
- Sports Pictures
- Athletic Trainer's Certification
- Drug Testing
- Interviewing Prospective Coaches
- NCAA Clearinghouse and Regulations

## **Athletic Event/Game Day Crowd Control**

Any school having an interscholastic athletic program, before the start of the school year, should have a well planned Emergency Action Plan. Personnel who should be included in developing the plan are administrators, athletic directors, coaches, band directors, security personnel and the game announcer.

Printed copies of the final statement of the Emergency Action Plan should be distributed to all personnel involved in any way with the conduct of the game. The program should be developed to regulate activities before, during and after the contest. Specific responsibilities should be outlined for everyone involved.

Before the contest: If the athletic program is to be successfully administrated, the athletic director must be concerned with the welfare of the fans and the student body. Since most schools are in need of the additional revenue from gate receipts, all efforts must be put forth to make attendance an enjoyable experience.

Important pre-planning steps are:

1. Make sure that all facilities are clean and comfortable for all including handicapped guests
2. Make sure there are necessary accommodations for handicap bathroom accessibility
3. Staff adequate concession stands; if possible, provide one for home and visitors
4. If possible, provide separate entrances and ticket booths for home and visitors with admission prices plainly posted
5. Make available to visiting schools necessary game information: Include directions for game parking, location of ticket booths, seating arrangements, ticket prices, game time and directions to the site
6. Provide supervised parking
7. Designate specific seating areas for students, bands, adults and visitors. If possible, opposing crowds should be separated. If a reserved section is used, make sure that seats are clearly designated.
8. Discuss with the student body the need for showing good sportsmanship, display of good sportsmanship, and cooperation with the team, band and visitors
9. Inform cheerleaders of the importance of proper timing of cheers, display of good sportsmanship to visitors and cooperation with team, band and other activities.
10. Arrange for adequate police supervision
11. All supervisory personnel should have a method of communication (i.e.; walkie-talkie, etc.)
12. Use mental detectors when appropriate. (i.e.: large crowds)
13. Have AEDs at the game site, and make sure it is operational
14. Post in plain site at the entrance to the site a copy of the reasons for expulsion from the contest, and have the P.A. person to announce these
15. Assign officials to dressing facilities separated from both teams. Provide escorts for the officials after the game

During the Contest:

1. Provide for adequate supervision of students and facilities by the home school
2. Be sure that visiting schools assume responsibility for supervising their students
3. Plan an interesting half-time program
4. To prevent long lines, obtain extra help at concession stands during half time and at breaks
5. Secure the facility to prevent fans from getting on the field, around the players' bench area or directly into the areas of competition



6. Have the P.A. announcer give the location of rest rooms, concession stands, lost and found, and periodically throughout the contest read any rules of behavior and other pertinent information
7. Provide a first aid station for emergencies. If possible, have doctor in attendance at home football games along with the rescue squad and the athletic trainer.

After the Contest: Planning for after the contest is probably the most important of the three stages in crowd control. Most incidents and encounters occur after the game when the fans are on their way home. Some of the most important considerations are:

1. Develop a procedural plan for the exit of teams, officials and fans
2. Direct the route for movement of all visiting school buses
3. Use the P.A. system to caution spectators about not walking on gym floors or fields, and give directions for traffic flow
4. To facilitate orderly movement of traffic lines, provide traffic supervision for cars leaving the parking lot

## **Responsibilities**

Administrators:

1. Assign and delegate to the proper school official the authority for crowd control
2. Convey to the delegated authority the seriousness of crowd control
3. Review with the athletic director the responsibilities of the police before, during and after the game.
4. Stress good sportsmanship. Work with the student body to better their attitude through assemblies and the school P.A. system
5. Insist that the coaches conduct themselves in a manner conducive to good sportsmanship and clean athletics

Athletic Director:

1. Prepare a plan for the safety of guest school athletes and fans:
  - a. Inform visiting schools as to where they are to park their buses and see that the guests are greeted and escorted to the game site. As the fans leave the game site, have security visible to ensure traffic flow is organized and moving quickly.
  - b. Provide separate, clearly marked seating areas for the adults, students and visiting bands. It is strongly recommended that the fans from the two schools remain in the areas designated as their seats. Problems occur when there is a crossover of fans and dialogue takes place.
  - c. Guest cheerleaders and bands should be greeted and escorted to their accommodations by the host school cheerleader coach and band director. Plans should be made about halftime procedures, etc. prior to the event.
2. Courtesy and protection of game officials:
  - a. Provide for parking and have a host greet the officials and escort them to their dressing room. These facilities should be private and include a shower. The officials' dressing room is off limits to players, coaches, fans and media.
  - b. Acknowledge payment of officials prior to the game. As a courtesy to the official provide soap, towels and refreshments.
  - c. Escort officials to and from the playing site.
3. Both the athletic director and the building principal must insist the coaches' conduct themselves in a manner conducive to good sportsmanship and clean athletics. The coach is the leader. His

actions play a big part in maintaining good crowd control. The coach must insist that the players are courteous to the officials.

4. Provide for basic crowd control:
  - a. Remember, it takes very little to incite an already up-tight crowd.
  - b. Provide visible police protection. Security personnel should know your expectations before the event begins.
  - c. Use booster and service club groups to act as ushers, program sellers, etc.
  - d. Make arrangements to prohibit fans from going on to the playing area after the game.

#### Cheerleading Coach:

1. Instruct the cheerleaders to:
  - a. Have positive cheers at all times
  - b. Divert the crowds' attention from booing by starting a positive cheer
  - c. Lead the crowd in a round of applause when an injured player leaves the field
  - d. Be on hand when the visiting team arrives and escort them to their section
  - e. Remain at the game site after the contest and only go to the buses with an escort
  - f. Travel in pairs or small groups when going to the restroom or other areas
2. Each school should set up a policy for entering and leaving an athletic event- possibly going as a unit with the band- especially in game situations of high rivalry
3. During basketball games, instruct cheerleaders to:
  - a. Set up a rotation of floor cheers
  - b. Remain silent when the opponent's team is on the floor for a cheer
  - c. Remain silent when the opponent is shooting a free throw

#### Band Director:

1. Help with crowd with music at appropriate times
2. Encourage band members to stay in small groups when not performing at football games
3. During the football season, the band director should make a courtesy call to the opponent's band director and exchange information consisting of:
  - a. Whether or not the guests are planning to attend and perform
  - b. The length of the half-time performances
  - c. Number and location of seating required. Number of band parents or helpers attending
  - d. Whether or not there are any special events planned
4. Provide adequate supervision at all band activities

#### Coaches:

1. Coaches have great influence over the players, spectators and parents who attend the contests, and must visibly show that he values self-restraint, fair play and sportsmanlike behavior at all times.
2. The behavior of the coach must at all times be marked by dignity and self-control. He should not, at any time, use provocative language or engage in any unsportsmanlike actions or tactics. He must avoid any actions or remarks which would tend to incite the fans or provoke disorderly conduct.
3. The coach will not tolerate any player disrespecting a game official.
4. Deliberate attempts to humiliate an opponent will not be tolerated.
5. Never seek out an official at half-time or at the end of the game.

#### Security Personnel:

1. Must have adequate, uniformed police officers visible at the site.

2. Must have written instructions for security personnel, including duty sites and emergency procedures.

Summary Statements:

1. Non-high school students should be encouraged to attend high school events with a responsible adult.
2. Encourage as many faculty members as possible to attend athletic contests.
3. Insist that unruly spectators be removed from the premises.
4. Outline to students what is acceptable behavior at athletic events.
5. Have a pre-season meeting in all sports with parents to go over expectations of behavior at games and other pertinent information
6. Have P.A. person to announce to the crowd throughout the game: behavior expectations, emergency procedures, lost and found area, restroom and concession facilities, and all other information that spectators would need to know for safety and convenience during the game.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACHES**

- To expertly supervise all team personnel during practice, at games, and on trips.
- To supply the athletic director with a completed eligibility list prior to the first contest. Coaches will be subject to paying the state fine if they are late turning in their list for eligibility purposes. This responsibility is that of the head coach.
- To supervise the care of all equipment, supplies, and facilities in their area of responsibility.
- Winter sport coaches must check the grades of team members at the end of the first semester for eligibility purposes.
- To get approval of the athletic director before placing an order to make a purchase. All requests must be made in writing.
- Plan with the athletic director on transporting, feeding and housing teams.
- Check with the athletic director before re-scheduling a contest. The school calendar must also be considered.
- To file a three-copy inventory with the athletic director within two weeks of the last contest. Coaches must keep one copy in their files.
- Count, pack, clean, and store all athletic equipment for each sport in a designated space, within two weeks of the last contest.
- With the aid of the athletic director, list new equipment needed for next year (two copies, one for AD, one for coach.) The athletic director will then secure permission to purchase from the principal.
- To keep the athletic director informed of normal and abnormal happenings surrounding the team or coaching.
- To supply the athletic director with forms, information, summaries, statistics, or other data that the athletic director feels is needed to operate an efficient department.
- The head varsity coach is responsible for the coordination of staff and their duties for the best possible results.
- To cooperate with administration, faculty, athletic director, parents, students, and other staff member in working together harmoniously for the betterment of the program.
- To work with the school athletic director to ensure that every student-athlete, student trainer, manager, scorekeeper, cheerleader, etc. is enrolled in the accident insurance program **or** that their parent or legal guardian has signed the waiver form (Appendix D.)
- Attend rules clinic.
- Send game information in to the local newspapers.

## **COACHES – NON-FACULTY ASSISTANT COACHES**

If it is impossible, after diligent search, for a principal to secure a faculty member to be an assistant coach, a non-faculty assistant may be hired under the following conditions:

- Their character and behavior must be beyond reproach.
- Approval for such an arrangement must be secured from the head coach, the principal, and the county athletic director.
- Their employment is on a temporary, year to year renewal basis. Their services may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the principal and the athletic director.
- The coaching positions will be filled with faculty members whenever faculty members are available and acceptable to the principal/county athletic director.
- They must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the rules of the sport.
- A background check must be completed and submitted to the county athletic director.

## **COACHES – NON-FACULTY HEAD COACHES**

Non-faculty head coaches may be employed only if the principal, after diligent search, cannot secure a faculty member or an instructional staff member of the local school system and only under the following conditions:

- Their character and behavior must be beyond reproach.
- They must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the rules of the sport.
- Approval for such an arrangement must be secured from the principal and the county athletic director. A background check must be completed and submitted to the county athletic director.
- Their employment is on a temporary, year to year renewal basis. Their services may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the principal.
- The coaching positions will be filled with faculty members whenever they are available and acceptable to the principal/county athletic director.
- All non-faculty coaches who are to receive supplements must complete W-2 forms and submit to the finance office.

## **COACHES – VOLUNTEER COACHES**

Volunteer coaches are allowed only within the following guidelines:

- Volunteer assistant coaches are permitted if the coach, the principal, and the county athletic director approve them. Volunteer coaches may receive no pay and their conduct must be beyond reproach at all times. A background check must be completed and submitted to the county athletic director's office.
- They must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the rules of the sport.

Their services may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the principal, the school's athletic director and/or the county athletic director.

# Required Parent Meetings

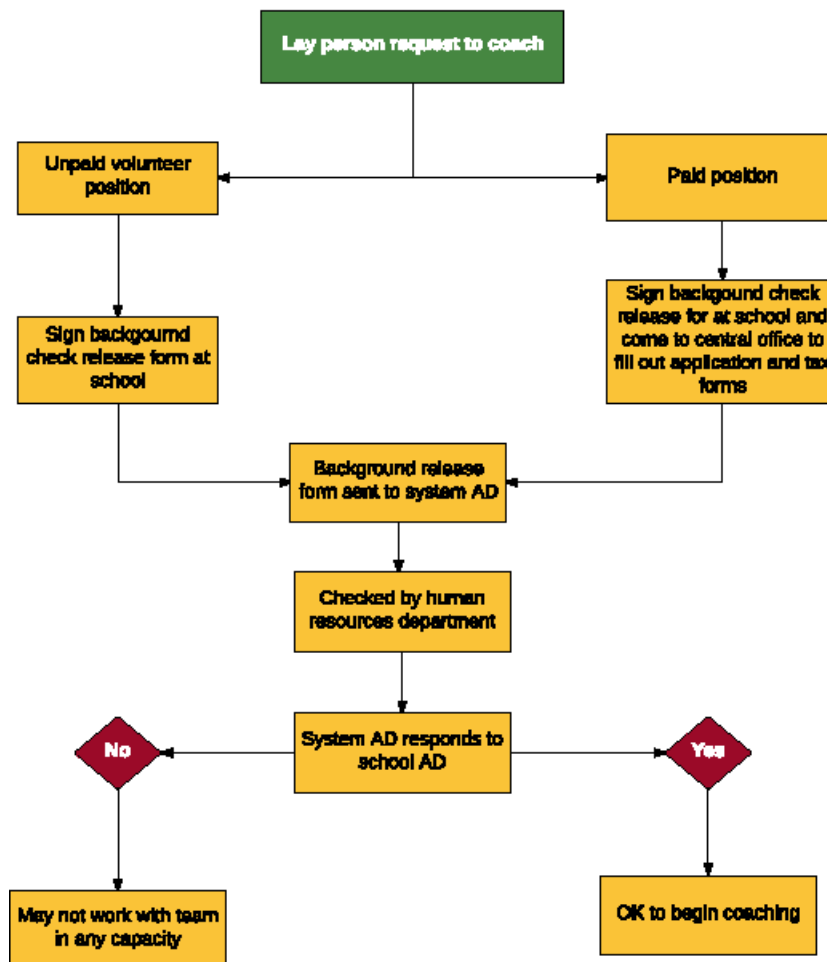
**Pre-season parent meetings** are required seasonally at the high school and middle school level. These meetings are to inform parents of rules and regulations, being a productive team member, and to emphasize the coach's expectations of the student athlete and their parents. There will be an emphasis on good sportsmanship and positive behavior at games.

Coaches are to refer parents to the I-SS website. High School Athletic Directors should be prepared to talk to high school athletes and parents about the I-SS policy on drug testing and to be able to field questions about the policy.

## Background Checks

- It is the responsibility of the coach of each team to inform the school's Athletic Director of any volunteer (paid or unpaid) that requests to work with his/her team in any capacity (coach, scorekeeper, stat person, etc.).
- Every person that requests to serve as a coach or work with a team in any capacity must have a background check completed regardless of how much time they work with the program.
- The individual may not begin working with the team until the background check has been completed by the HR Department and verification given to the school's Athletic Director that the individual is cleared.
- If the individual is to be paid, he/she must also come to the central office to fill out tax forms and an application before being allowed to begin.

## Background Check Process



# Middle School Athletics

- Middle School Athletics County Rules
- Booking Agents
- I-SS Middle Schools Athletic Schedules Seasonal Starting Times



All Iredell Statesville Schools Middle Schools Athletics follow under the direction of the NCDPI and are bound to follow all their guidelines, policies, and procedures in the NCDPI MIDDLE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC MANUAL. An online version of the handbook can be obtained by going to the following.

<https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/academic-standards/programs-and-initiatives/nc-healthy-schools/athletics>

**\*\* Addendum to the Academic/Scholastic Requirements.\*\***

In grades six, seven and eight, Any student that fails to pass any two or more of the courses taken in the preceding semester will be ineligible to participate in Athletics for the entirety of the next semester.

ISS Middle Schools  
Athletics County Rules

General:

1. Host schools will provide coolers, cups, warm-up balls, etc. (Coaches may want to take their own warm-up balls in certain sports).
2. Schools may schedule extra non-conference games in all sports up to the limit in the handbook
3. Ejections: will follow the middle school recommendation, i.e.; first ejection, sit one game.
4. Cheerleaders will shake hands with only the cheerleaders after the game
5. Coaches will update standings weekly in all sports.
6. Will report results in all sports to the Record and Landmark and other media.
7. Will start games at 4:15; however games may start sooner if both teams are ready and agree, especially in outdoor sports where daylight is a factor.
8. Admission: \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 students.
9. Eligibility: See handbook for basic guidelines, but not reduce them. At end of semester, students become eligible or ineligible on the first day of the next semester.
10. Holiday/workday practices are allowed but cannot be made mandatory.
11. Pre-season parent meetings are required in all sports. All rules concerning the sport should be covered and permission forms should be signed during these meetings, which are conducted by the coach and/or athletic director. Sportsmanship should be the major point of emphasis during these meetings.
12. All schools will follow the OSS/ISS/Athletic participation policy, which is included in this handbook.
13. Middle school cheerleaders are permitted to dance, cheer and do floor exercises. They are not allowed to build pyramids and they are not to do basket tosses and other throws.
14. One (1) pre-season scrimmage is permitted with another school team and it does not count as a regular season contest.

#### Volleyball:

1. Will play best 2 out of 3 matches in games, and use rally scoring. The third game (if necessary) will be to 15, win by 2.
2. Will use the Libero substitution rule.
3. Home team will warm-up and be finished so the visiting team can warm-up when they arrive. Matches will begin immediately.
4. The top 6 teams at the end of the regular season will qualify for the season ending tournament.

#### Football:

1. Games will be 8 min. quarters.
2. Overtime: 7<sup>th</sup> grade will not play overtime. 8<sup>th</sup> grade will play overtime, but not exceed two overtime series.
3. Practice may begin ten days prior to the first day of school, per DPI regulations. (see seasonal starting times page)
4. There will be mandatory seeding meeting for Super Tuesday. Top 6 Teams will play, 1 v/s 2, 3 v/s 4, 5 v/s 6.

#### Cross Country:

1. Scoring should be consistent county wide using the cross out method. Coaches will meet before the final championship match to work out logistics.
2. The maximum distance for MS/JR HS students is 2.0 miles.

#### Basketball:

1. Contests will be played in 6 minute quarters.
2. Half time will be 8 minutes, and time between games will be 8 minutes.
3. Only the top 6 teams will qualify to play in the tournament.
4. Seeding meeting for tournament is mandatory for all coaches.

#### Wrestling:

1. The two pound growth allowance will begin with the first match in January.
2. The seeding meeting for the tournament is mandatory, and coaches must bring their scorebook.

#### Soccer:

1. Regular season ties will be broken by the "Golden Goal Rule".
2. For tie breaker during regular season, one five minute period, first goal wins. If no goal by either team, game is a tie. Tied games will be broken by Golden Goal rule. Officials should be aware of this local rule.
3. Contests shall be played in two, thirty minute halves.
4. Only the top 6 teams will qualify to play in the tournament.

#### Baseball

1. Metal cleats are NOT allowed to be worn in games or practices.
2. Pitching limitations must be followed, Violation of the pitching limitation rule is interpreted as the

use of an ineligible player. The penalty is a forfeit of the game for which the ineligible player participated.

3. Coaches must meet after the game to sign off on pitch counts during the contest.
4. All updated stats and pitch counts should be entered in the shared spreadsheet by noon of the next day.
5. Pitch count rules will be set at a before season meeting of AD'S.

### Cheerleading

1. The cheerleading coach must get stunt certified either via NCCA summer clinic or take the online stunt safety course. AD must get a copy of the certification and send a copy to the District AD. Certification must be done yearly.
2. No stunts above the head
3. no tosses of any kind
4. If not on grass, stunts must be done on a mat.

### Middle School Booking Agents

Football	Michael Wilson	mdw1031@yahoo.com	704-660-3376 (Home)	704-575-2836 (Cell)
Volleyball	Doug Fagan	kissmif@yadtel.net		336-972-1999
Basketball	Liz-Crowe Covington	pboaliz@gmail.com		(828) 446-8141
Wrestling	Jack Embree	Jrembree913@gmail.com		336-953-0412
Soccer	David Whitman	david@blueridgesoccer.org		336-838-7725
Baseball and Softball	Seth Keener	wpoanc@gmail.com		828-310-8084

*Note: Officials should be paid upon arrival at the game and fill out the required paperwork. If one official for whatever reason doesn't show, and the game is played, the other official(s) will split ½ of that official's pay. This will be done by writing the official(s) another check and mailing it to him/her. No official will be allowed to take a check that is not made out to him/her.*

## Middle Schools Athletic Schedules Seasonal Starting Times

### Fall Sports

Per DPI rules, football practice may begin ten school days before the first day of school. You will be able to see practice start dates listed on school website. In I-SS, football practice may begin during teacher workdays. These days are teacher workdays and/or non- school days, these **practices must be optional** per board policy. Fall sports cuts can't be made before the first day of school starting.

### Winter Sports

Basketball Tryouts: All basketball teams tryout dates will be posted on the I-SS website and try-outs are site based as determined by the athletic director. Both JV and Varsity teams will be selected during try-outs.

Wrestling tryout dates will be posted on the I-SS School website. The season begins in November and ends the end of January with the tournament usually in the beginning of February. Note: JV basketball players are allowed to join the wrestling team at the conclusion of their season. The first date they may practice wrestling is the day after their last basketball game.

### Spring Sports

Practice start dates will be posted on the I-SS website. No matches may be scheduled after the end of the regular season unless it is a make-up conference match due to bad weather. Due to heavy demands on buses in the spring, every effort should be made to schedule any extra matches at home..

### Starting Times

Standard starting times is 4:15. If starting times are different than listed above, it must be mutually agreed upon by both schools.

### Make-Ups

It is recommended that all postponed games be made up on the next available playing date.

# **BOARD POLICIES RELATED TO ATHLETICS**

All policies can be viewed from the Iredell–Statesville Schools website.

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 3620**

- Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 3623/4343**

- Drug Testing of Student Athletes

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 4150-G**

- Interscholastic Athletic Eligibility

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 4331**

- Assaults, Threats, and Harassment

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 4400**

- Accountability Guidelines

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 5023/7250**

- Smoking and Tobacco Products

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 7100**

- Criminal Background Checks

## **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY CODE 3320**

- Field Trips