

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School



Athletic Handbook

CLINTON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School recognizes that interested students should have the opportunity to develop their potential as athletes in activities appropriate to their level of ability. In this spirit, Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School provides a program of interscholastic athletics which promotes participation for qualified students within the rules and regulations of the Indiana High School Athletic Association and Clinton Central Jr./Sr. High School Athletic Department. It is the goal of our school to provide such opportunity as a further means of developing the intellectual, emotional and social maturity of our students, while at the same time teaching the importance and worth of teamwork and sportsmanship. Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School athletics also provide a unifying influence upon our student body and between our school and community. Finally, as is true in all aspects of education at Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School, our athletic program is committed to the pursuit of excellence, acknowledging that the quest itself is the most significant aspect of achievement.

PROFILE OF CLINTON CENTRAL JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School has developed a rich tradition in athletics. The entire school and community takes pride in the accomplishments of the Bulldog athletic teams. Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School athletics reflect our school's philosophy and commitment to excellence.

Boys are offered a eight-sport program including cross country and football in the fall; basketball, swimming and wrestling in the winter; and baseball, golf and track in the spring. Girls are offered a seven-sport program including cross country, golf, and volleyball in the fall; basketball and swimming in the winter; and softball and track in the spring. Cheerleading is our 16th varsity sport and there are squads for football, volleyball, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, as well as competition squads made up of members of the cheerleading teams. All students with sufficient ability are eligible to participate provided they meet the scholastic standards and conduct requirements as established by the Clinton Central Jr/Sr. High School Athletic Council and IHSAA.

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School is a proud member of the Hoosier Heartland Conference. Other member schools include Carroll, Clinton Prairie, Rossville, Sheridan, and Tri-Central. Conference champions are awarded in 19 sports plus an "All-Sports" Trophy for both boys' sports and girls' sports.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Participation in athletics is a privilege earned by meeting the rules and standards set by schools, conferences and the IHSAA. Students who have questions concerning eligibility should contact the Athletics Director, or Principal **BEFORE** they endanger their athletic eligibility.

ACADEMICS

Student athletes should manage their time in such a way as not to have to miss practices, competitions, or school in order to participate in athletics and achieve successfully in academics. If this cannot be done, students should **NOT** be involved in athletics. Academics must always be a higher priority than athletics.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Grades 9-12

To be eligible for athletics a student must:

- Must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period.
- Must have received passing grades during that grading period in 5 full subjects, or equivalent, and currently be passing at least 5 full credit subjects or the equivalent. (Semester grades take precedence)
- Students who are ineligible scholastically at the end of a grading period or semester are ineligible for the following grading period.

Grades 7-8

A student enrolling in the 7th grade for the first time will be eligible for the first grading period regardless of previous academic achievement.

Thereafter, in order to be eligible:

- a student in grades 7 or 8 must be currently enrolled and must have been enrolled in school the immediately preceding grading period and received passing grades during that period in 75% of the core subjects carried the preceding grading period.

All managers, trainers, and support staff members that are deemed ineligible may be allowed to practice for 4 ½ weeks pending a mid-term check of grades. If an athlete is still not passing 5 classes (IHSAA Rule C-18-1) then the athlete, with approval of the parents and coach, shall be allowed to practice for the remainder of that grading period. The athlete may not participate in or dress for contests during this time. An athlete will not be considered a member of an athletic team if the IHSAA academic standards for participation are not being met at the completion of the season.

ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS OR INJURY

An athlete who misses 5 consecutive days of school or athletic participation due to illness or injury must obtain written permission from a physician and present this to the Athletic Director or coach before they may again become eligible for participation. Additional practices are required by the IHSAA before regaining eligibility after an extended absence due to illness or injury.

AGE

Grades 9-12

A student whose 20th birthday occurs on or prior to the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be ineligible for interschool athletic competition in that sport. (IHSAA Rule C-4-1)

Grades 7-8

Students whose 15th birthday occurs before August 15 shall be ineligible for junior high athletic competition. Those whose 15th birthday occurs on or after August 15 are considered eligible for the remainder of the year.

AMATEURISM

Students shall not play under assumed names; accept remuneration directly or indirectly for athletic participation; or participate in athletic activities, tryouts, auditions, practices, and games held or sponsored by professional athletic organizations, clubs or their representatives.

ATTENDANCE

A student has an obligation to be at school and in all classes. The student who has any unexcused absence the day of a contest is ineligible for participation that day. The student must be in school for 4 periods of classes and have an excused absence for the remainder of the day or be granted an excused absence by the administration in order to participate in after-school practices and contests. The student must sign in at the office by 11:30am if he/she was absent from school due to illness in order to participate in after-school practices or contests. All students are expected to be in school the day following a contest unless injured, excused for a medical appointment, or granted an excused absence by the administration.

- Students must abide by all rules and regulations in the Student handbook
- If placed in detention, the student must fulfill the obligation as assigned
- While under school suspension (in-school or out-of-school), the student will not be allowed to participate in practices or athletic contest.
- If a student is absent on the last day of a school week, they are eligible for participation in practice or a contest if either falls on a non-school day.
- Team members are expected to be present at all practices, team meetings, contests, and special occasions unless excused by the coach.

CONCUSSION RELEASE FORM

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury (TBI) that may result in a bad headache, altered levels of alertness, or unconsciousness. It temporarily interferes with the way your brain works and it can affect memory, judgment, reflexes, speech, balance, coordination, and sleep patterns. Before a student can participate in interscholastic sports, parents and students must read the fact sheet on concussions and return the acknowledgement form to the athletic office.

CONFLICTS IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School recognizes that every student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities. Students are also urged to use caution in attempting to "specialize" too much, thereby denying themselves a well-rounded high school career. Students, however, should be cautious about participating in too many activities. Interscholastic sports at the high school level require a substantial time commitment which usually extends Monday through Saturday from the first official day of practice until the end of the tournament series. A commitment to a high school athletic team indicates that all non-school conflicts will be resolved in favor of the high school team. This would not include such things as significant religious holidays, participating in a relative's wedding, a family member's funeral, etc.

If a conflict between activities arises, the student should notify the coach and/or sponsors involved and attempt to resolve the conflict as equitably as possible. If the conflict persists, the student may contact the Athletic Director for assistance.

DOUBLE SPORT ATHLETES

High school athletes must declare Major vs. Minor sport as double sport athlete. The Major sport takes precedence over the Minor sport of game/match night contests when conflicts occur. A double sport athlete remains eligible for his/her major sport if he/she leaves the minor sport prior to the conclusion of the season.

ENROLLMENT

After enrollment or attending classes in 9th grade, a student is eligible for no more than 8 consecutive semesters. For further information, please refer to the IHSAA by-laws available online.

EQUIPMENT ISSUE AND RETURN

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School endeavors to provide each team member with the best and safest equipment available. All equipment issued to an athlete is expected to be returned in the same condition as when issued (excepting normal wear and tear) or the athlete is expected to compensate the athletic department for the lost or damaged equipment. Failure to return equipment, including athletic locks, or to compensate the school for lost or damaged equipment will result in forfeiture of award for that season. All obligations must be completed prior to the first scheduled contest in a new sport.

HAZING

Clinton Central School Corporation believes that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and prohibits all such activities at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any Corporation-sponsored event.

Hazing shall be defined for purposes of this policy as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy. See additional information located in this handbook under discipline code.

INSURANCE

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School administrators, coaches and trainers are safety conscious and are trained to instruct athletes in the safe and proper techniques of their individual sport(s). Due to the nature of athletic activity, however, injury may occur. Parents are required to have an insurance policy to cover athletic injuries and the cost of treatment. Contact the Athletic Office for information about insurance plans which can be purchased by parents through the school to cover their student athlete to meet this requirement. The Clinton Central Athletic Department will not assume responsibility of payment for medical treatment for an injury which was incurred during a practice or athletic contest.

MULTIPLE SPORT PARTICIPATION

The Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School Athletic Department supports the concept of participating in more than one high school sport. High school coaches should not establish expectations "out of season" which would prohibit or restrict a student's participation in another sport which is "in season". A student athlete who wishes to participate in more than one sport in the same season (fall, winter, spring) must have prior approval of the coaches and Athletic Director. A schedule resolving all practice and competition conflicts must be established prior to the season and the student athlete will be asked to designate a "primary" sport if necessary.

NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School does not encourage or endorse the use of any type of nutritional supplement. The use of products such as protein supplements, amino acid supplements, creatine, weight gain and/or loss products, etc. is a decision to be made by the

student/athlete and their parents. This decision should be made in consultation with a physician.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Between April 1st and a student's first practice in preparation for interschool athletic participation, the student shall have had:

- A physical examination or certification by a physician holding an unlimited license to practice medicine
- Written consent of parent or guardian for such participation unless athlete is emancipated

Evidence shall be on file in the athletic office prior to the student's first practice. Such certificate may suffice for the entire school year.

PARENT AND STUDENT CONSENT FORM

The Parent and Student Consent Form and Emergency Medical information is found on the athletic department website. It must be completed and returned in order for a student to be eligible for athletic participation. The signature of a parent and athlete indicates that each have read, understand and agree to abide by the stated policies.

PARTICIPATION

Participation in a organized non-school sports competition during the authorized contest season, including IHSAA tournament series in that sport, shall cause students to become ineligible for their school team in that sport for a period not to exceed 365 days as determined by the commissioner of the IHSAA

- An athlete cannot participate in more than 2 seasons of the same sport during his/her junior high career
- A athlete cannot participate on 2 teams during the same season unless both coaches agree to this arrangement
- 6th grade studnes may participate on the following junior high teams with coach's approval: cross country, swimming, wrestling, track, and golf

QUITTING A TEAM/DISMISSED

Athletes quitting a team or dismissed(not cut) from a team after 5 days of practice make themselves ineligible for any sport in season or out of season until the elimination of said team from the IHSAA State Tournament participation. This includes working out with a coach on school grounds.

TICKET INFORMATION

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School offers a variety of ticket plans for the convenience of students, parents and patrons. Substantial savings on admission costs to events can be realized through the purchase of annual all-sports tickets, good for entry into all Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School athletic events except IHSAA, county or conference events, jamborees or scrimmages. Students and patrons may also purchase single session tickets at the gate for any event they wish to attend. For further information, contact the Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School Athletic Office.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Parents of students who wish to participate in athletics at Clinton Central but who did not attend Clinton Central Schools during their intended sport's season the previous school year are required to complete an Athletic Transfer Report Form. The transfer will be sent to the student's former school and to the IHSAA for approval. The student cannot become eligible for competition until approval has been granted by the IHSAA.

Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School will strictly enforce IHSAA by-laws regarding student-athlete transfers. Students who transfer without a corresponding change in residence by the parents or guardians will be recommended for "Limited Eligibility" which allows for participation at the junior varsity level only for a period of 365 days. If there is reason to believe that the change of schools involves athletics in any way, the recommendation from Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School will be "No Eligibility" in athletics for a period of 365 days. Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School will consider any hardships relevant to the transfer if necessary. Further information regarding transfers can be obtained through the athletic director.

TRAVEL

Athletes must travel to and from contests away from CCHS in transportation provided by the school.

The only exceptions are:

- Injury to a participant which would require alternate transportation
- Prior arrangement between the participant's parent/guardian and the coach for the student to ride with the parent/guardian

The noise level in transporting vehicle must remain low so the driver may be able to hear traffic danger noises.

No food or drinks are allowed on the bus other than when allowed by bus driver.

WEIGHT ROOM

No student shall use the weight room facilities without adult supervision. Students are urged to request assistance from the coaches when planning and initiating a workout regimen.

CLINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION

PERSONAL CONDUCT

Participation on an athletic team at Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School is a privilege and the participants must earn the right to represent Clinton Central by conducting themselves in such a way that the image of Clinton Central Schools would not be tarnished in any manner. Any participant whose conduct is judged to reflect a discredit upon themselves, the team, or Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School, whether or not such activity takes place during or outside school hours and sessions of sport season, will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Athletic Council and/or the coach. As rationale for all Clinton Central School Corporation personal conduct rules IHSAA By-Law C-8-1 states:

Contestants' conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon their school or the Association, or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school.

If the action of the athlete causes the police and/or court system to become involved, then the Athletic Council and/or the administration will follow this procedure:

- If paperwork has been started by the police and/or the court system, 50% of the suspension that the action calls for may be imposed pending the investigation
- If and when final action is taken by police and/or the court system the remaining amount of the suspension will be imposed
- If no paperwork is going to be filed by the police and/or the court system, but the coach, administration, or Athletic council feels this conduct violates the above statement about personal conduct, then the coach shall determine his own discipline for the athlete after discussion with the administration and the athletic director.

Violations and Penalties

Type of Violation	Level	Penalty
Felonies, Thefts, and Misdemeanors or being placed on probation by the court system	1 st Offense	Minimum of 60% of the season (if not enough games left in the season, the rest of the penalty will be served in the next season of participation) And 24 hours of school directed community service
	2 nd Offense	2 year suspension from participation in athletics with a review after 1 year
Use or illegal possession of a controlled substance, tobacco or alcohol	1 st Offense	65% of the current season or the next normal season of participation May be reduced to 40% if the student athlete successfully completes a drug or alcohol program at an approved drug or alcohol center and 24 hours of school directed community service If needed, an athlete's suspension will carry over to the next sport in which he/she normally participates
	2 nd Offense	2 year suspension from participation in athletics with a review after 1 year
	3 rd Offense	Suspended for remainder of athlete's high school career

SELF-REPORTING USE OR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO

(Self-reporting is accomplished when a student comes forward of his/her own accord prior to any questioning by school officials. If school officials question a student and that student has not already reported the incident, it will not be considered self-reporting.)

Violation	Level	Penalty
Self-Reporting the use or illegally possesses alcohol or tobacco	1 st Offense	25% of the current season or the next season they would normally compete in. Successfully complete an alcohol or tobacco program at an approved drug or alcohol center at the family's expense. Serve 8 hours of school directed community service.
	2 nd Offense	Penalty would move to the 2 nd offense under "Use or illegal Possession of Tobacco or Alcohol."

- Failure to attend these sessions will result in the student being suspended from participation as written in the Athletic Code of Conduct. The student must meet with the high school principal or assistant principal to regain eligibility for participation in athletics.
- If the violation is discovered other than through self-reporting, the student will be suspended from participation as it is stated in the Athletic Code of Conduct. Further violations, whether voluntarily reported or not, will result in disciplinary action as written in the Athletic Code of Conduct.

PROBATION AND/OR MULTIPLE CODE VIOLATIONS

If a student violates the Athletic Code of Conduct, he/she will be placed on athletic probation for a period of 180 calendar days.

- If he/she violates this probationary period with another offense of any type, regardless of level, he/she will receive the following penalties:
 - 1st offense while on probation – suspension for the remainder of the season or the next season he/she normally participate in. (If less than 75% of the season remains, then it carries into the next season)
 - 2nd offense while on probation – suspension for the next 2 sport seasons with a review by the Athletic Council after one year
 - 3rd offense while on probation – suspension for 2 years with a review by the Athletic Council after one year
- If he/she violates this probationary period with another offense in the same type of violations, he/she will receive the penalty that follows that type and he will receive a new probationary period of 365 calendar days. This formula will continue through the end of the penalty phase for each violation type
- If he/she does not violate the probationary period with another offense from a different level of violations, he/she will be removed from probation at the end of the 180 calendar days.

DUE PROCESS

The Board of School Trustees of Clinton Central School Corporation has provided a procedure for the handling of a student suspension from athletic competition. The basic premise of this policy is fairness.

The following is a summary of the procedures that will apply for athletic suspension:

- An athlete will be suspended for violation of team rules of the Clinton Central Jr/Sr High School Athletic Department
- The suspension will be made during a conference with the athlete
- A written explanation shall be filed by the coach with the athletic director, or by the athletic director with the principal, stating the misconduct and discipline as outlined in the Athletic Code of Conduct. A copy of the written explanation shall be sent to the student and parents by certified mail.
 - If the parents deem it necessary, they can contact the athletic office and schedule an appointment to meet with the coach or athletic director. This appointment must be made within 48 hours of receiving the explanation from the school.
- If the parents need further verification regarding the suspension, a meeting with the coach, and athletic director, or athletic director and principal, may be scheduled within 48 hours after the first meeting,. At the conclusion of this meeting, the athletic director or principal will notify the parents in writing as to his/her decision.
- The parents may appeal the athletic director's or principal's decision to the Clinton Central Athletic Council. A written request must be filed with the principal within 48 hours of receiving the athletic director's or principal's decision. After this meeting the Athletic Council's finding will be mailed to the parents and the decision of the Athletic Council is final.

CLINTON CENTRAL JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC AWARDS

Athletic Council:

The athletic council consists of the principal, athletic director, high school varsity coaches, a school board member, and a member of the high school faculty.

Athletic Patches:

- Academic All-State Honors – Athletic patches will be presented to athletes receiving “Academic All-State” awards from the state coaches association for that sport.
- All Conference Honors – Athletes earning Hoosier Heartland “All-Conference” honors will be awarded an athletic patch
- All-State Honors – Athletic patches will be presented to athletes recognized at “1st Team All-State by the AP or UPI wire service.
- Individual Honors – an athlete who is an individual sectional, regional, semi-state, or state champion or a state qualifier will be given an athletic patch
- Team Honors – Athletic patches will be awarded to members of a team winning a conference, sectional, regional, semi-state, or state championship.

Awards Banquet:

At the conclusion of each sports season, an awards banquet will be held. Athletes must attend these banquets as part of the requirements as a participant in that sport. Any athlete not attending the awards banquet will lose lettering or participation points for the sport he/she is in that season unless excused prior to the banquet by the coach and Athletic Director. School dress code will be enforced at all banquets. Students not following school dress code will be asked to leave and receive disciplinary action the following school day per student handbook policy.

Awards Blanket:

A blanket will be awarded to any senior athlete who has accumulated 9 or more points and has participated in 3 sports during their senior year.

Forfeiting of Points:

After a conference with the coach, an athlete quitting a squad will lose any points accumulated for that season. The coach must notify the athletic director of the athlete’s decision.

Injured Player:

If an athlete is ill or injured before or during the season, he/she can be awarded points based on the recommendation of the coach and the approval of the Council.

Junior Varsity Athletes & Freshman Athletes:

Any athlete earning a junior varsity/freshman participation award will receive .5 points for successfully completing the season.

Lettering:

Basketball – Boys & Girls

- Athlete must participate in 50% of all varsity quarters

Football

- Athlete must participate in 50% of all varsity quarters

Golf

- Athlete must participate in 50% of all varsity matches

Volleyball

- Athlete must participate in 30% of all varsity team sets

Baseball & Softball

- Athlete must participate in 50% of total games

Swimming

- Athlete must average at least 3.5 points per varsity meet

Track – Boy & Girls

- Service 50 points
- Each meet point 10 points
- Varsity Total to earn letter 205 points
- A letter cannot be won without winning 15 track varsity point in more than one meet. If less than 10 have qualified for a varsity award, then the top 10 point winners may be recommended by the coach to letter but must be approved by the council.

Cheer

- For each Game/event 15 points
- Fall Varsity Total to earn letter 205 points
- Winter Varsity Total to earn letter 205 points

Wrestling

- Service 50 points
- Varsity Representation 10 points
- Varsity Win (not each meet) 30/day
- Pin or default 5 points
- Varsity Total to earn letter 205 points

Letter Jacket:

The letter jacket (which the athlete must purchase) is awarded to an athlete who has earned 3 award points and at least 1 varsity letter. The jacket will be issued at an athletic award program after the athlete satisfactorily completes the season.

Loaning of Awards:

All awards are loaned to the athlete and do not become his/her property until graduation from school. An athlete winning awards may be asked by the Athletic Council to return his/her awards if the athlete conducts himself/herself in a manner unbecoming an athlete or if he does not fulfill the requirements of the awards system.

Plaque:

A plaque will be awarded to any senior athlete who has accumulated 7 or more award points and has participated in at least 2 sports during their senior year.

Point System:

An athlete successfully completing a season as a freshman or Junior Varsity member will be give .5 award points. An athlete successfully completing a season will be given 1 award point.

Senior Letters:

A senior participating in a sport and does not meet the lettering requirements could receive a letter if recommended by the coach and approved by the Athletic Director.

Student Managers:

An athlete successfully completing a season as a manager or trainer will be awarded letter points or participation points as determined by the varsity coach or athletic trainer. No high school student will receive points for managing or student training a junior high team.

SPECIAL AWARDS

A.J. Archibald Memorial Award

A.J. Archibald was a special young man who was an athlete at CC and died tragically when he was a freshman. A.J. offered a true testimonial to what athletics are about in high school. A.J. was not a big athlete nor did he possess great speed, but he had a great heart and determination.

Each year the Athletic Department at CCHS presents and award to a senior athlete that displays great citizenship skills, persistence, determination, and a positive mental attitude to constantly work to the betterment of what high school sports are all about, and that is the importance of the concept of team effort. With these statements as our guide the following criteria was established to determine the recipient of this award.

- Senior male or female athlete with participation in sports at least 2 sports during their high school athletic career.
- Promotes athletics, supports all athletics
- Gets the most out of the talent he/she possesses
- A good student that works to their potential and beyond
- Has a very special mental attitude

The CC Head Coaches will make the final selection from a list of athletes who have met the previously mentioned requirements. A personal remembrance plaque will be presented to the recipient during the Awards Day Program.

Wilbur T. Rule Athlete of the Year Award

Each year the Athletic Department at CCHS presents an award to the outstanding male and female senior athlete. These awards are given in honor of Wilbur T. Rule who was a dedicated administrator, teacher, and coach for 43 ½ years in the CC community. For 28 years Mr. Rule was our Athletic Director. During his tenure as Athletic Director, Mr. Rule took great pride in not only team accomplishments but in individuals who received honors as outstanding athletes.

It was Mr. Rule's belief that athletes should be good students as well as model citizens. With Mr. Rule's philosophy as a guide the following criteria was established to determine the recipients of these awards.

- In academics, the student must have a GPA of 2.75 or higher at the end of the 3rd nine weeks of their senior year
- In athletics, the athlete must participate in 2 sports during his/her senior year and earned at least 3 varsity letters by the end of the winter season
- For citizenship, the recipient must be actively involved in non-athletic extra-curricular activities and non-school clubs and organizations

The CC Athletic Council will make the final selections from a list of athletes who have met the previously mentioned requirements. Plaques will be presented to the recipients during the Senior Awards Day Program.