



BLOOM-CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL
2022-23
HANDBOOK FOR
STUDENT ATHLETES AND PARENTS
July 1, 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

The Bloom-Carroll Athletic TEAM of parents, students, staff, boosters and community at large promotes excellence in both the classroom and on the fields of athletic competition. Our success is only achieved through effective communication, clear expectations, character development, dedication, sportsmanship and a strong school spirit. As a TEAM we recognize the intangible benefits that athletics have upon our young adults and the community in which we reside.

OBJECTIVES OF THE BLOOM-CARROLL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Because athletics should be a part of the total curriculum, the following purposes are listed as a guide to the program to insure that it meets the needs of Bloom-Carroll students:

1. To provide natural outlets for students desiring to participate on teams, in competition with teams of similar abilities.
2. To assist in the development of school and student morale.
3. To teach good sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
4. To develop the ideals of self-sacrifice and self-discipline.
5. To provide a situation in which physically gifted students will have the opportunity to participate with students of like abilities.
6. To further develop the health of each individual so he/she will be a contributing member of society.
7. To include the athletic program as an integral part of the total school program, conducted by the administration and coaches without undue influence by outside groups.
8. To provide the most qualified coaching instruction available from the staff and community while maintaining strict expectations of moral and ethical coaching standards.

PARENT/ COACH COMMUNICATIONS

It is reasonable to expect that situations will arise that would call for discussion, explanations or, simply, dialogue between parents and coaches. It is the recommendation of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the philosophy of the Bloom-Carroll Athletic Department that those discussions occur at a scheduled time away from practice/game situations. The emotional ups and downs of pre/post-game situations for students, parents and coaches dictate that this is not the most productive time for discussion of strategy, playing time, difference of opinion, etc. Therefore, it is the policy of the Bloom-Carroll Athletic Department that conference times between parents, coaches, and athletes be arranged during or after school at the convenience of all parties involved. In most situations, misunderstandings will be ironed out at this time. **In no instance will confrontation in anger or at inappropriate times be tolerated.**

Meeting requests should follow the chain of command, as listed below:

1. **Player meets/talks with coach**
2. **Parent and Player meet with coach (if necessary)**
3. **Parent and player meet with Athletic Director (if necessary)**
4. **Parent and Player meet with building principal (if necessary)**

If a parent does not want their student-athlete present for a meeting, then that meeting should be scheduled directly with the Athletic Director and may or may not include the coach of the program involved.

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Any student athlete who plays two sports in one season must declare one sport to be a priority. Mutual consent between coaches is mandatory.

Any athlete or manager who participates in organized practices for one week or competes in one regularly scheduled contest may not participate in another sport or open gym during that season, unless by mutual consent of the coaches involved, and upon the approval of the Athletic/Activities Director. Any athlete who is "cut" from a team may try out for another team during that season. Disputes in the areas of athletic participation in more than one sport and the matter of an athlete changing from one sport to another will be resolved by decision of the Athletic/Activities Director.

When a student competes in successive sports seasons, the coach of the following sport is encouraged to give the student time off between seasons.

PAY TO PARTICIPATE

It is required for all students involved in Bloom-Carroll athletics to pay participation fees following these guidelines:

- A) The fee for a "sport" is **\$100** per participant with a maximum of **\$200** per year for any given individual.
- B) There will be a "family maximum" of **\$300** per year that would be satisfied by any family having two or more participants in two or more sports.

Pay to Participate fees will be required following tryouts but prior to the first contest in order for the student athlete to be eligible to participate. There will be no refunds or transfer of funds to another sport if the athlete quits. Refunds requested for an injury will be considered on a case by case basis.

ATTENDANCE

Participants must be present **the day of a scheduled practice or contest and on the day following an extracurricular activity to be eligible for the next scheduled activity.**

Students who arrive to school after 7:30 a.m. but before 8:00 a.m. will be considered tardy. Students arriving to school or leaving school after 8:00 am will be considered absent. If a student doesn't start their day at 7:30 am, then the tardy period will be considered the first 30 minutes of their first class of the day. Any student arriving later than 30 minutes is considered absent. For partial day absences relating to athletic eligibility purposes, only documentation from a doctor/medical professional will excuse the absence.

If a student is ill and unable to attend school, or leaves school early due to illness, they are not permitted to practice or play in a game on that same day, regardless of whether a note from a medical professional is provided.

If a student athlete is **not** ill but has an appointment with a medical professional and misses part or all of a school day (i.e. orthodontist, eye doctor appointment, etc.), they may be able to participate provided a note from the medical professional is provided prior to the practice or game contest on that day.

COLLEGE RECRUITERS

All college recruiters must report to the principal's office upon entering the building. Conferences with the athlete must take place during the course of the school day. Athletes may not be excused from class without permission from the principal, assistant principal, or Athletic/Activities Director. Discretion must be used when an athlete is involved in more than one sport.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Each athlete shall be given a written copy of the rules and regulations that apply to that particular activity. The coach shall explain the rules, and a copy will be posted for students to review. It is recommended that each student sign a statement declaring that he/she has received a copy and understands and agrees to abide by the rules and regulations established for that activity.

When a situation occurs that could result in denial of participation in an activity, a "NOTICE OF INTENDED REMOVAL" shall be completed by the Athletic Director before a decision is made. This form shall state the nature of the violation and be signed by the Athletic Director and the student.

The Athletic Director shall hold an informal hearing where the student is provided an opportunity to ask questions and present their side of the situation. Following this hearing, the Athletic Director will inform the student of the disciplinary action to be taken.

ELIGIBILITY

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION REQUIREMENTS

A. In order to be eligible in grades 9-12 a student must be currently enrolled, and have been enrolled in the preceding grading period. During the preceding grading period, the student must have received **passing grades in a minimum of five one-credit courses or the equivalent**, which counts toward graduation.

B. The eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth (5th) calendar day at which time, the grades from the immediately preceding grading period become effective. EXCEPTION: Eligibility or ineligibility for the first grading period commences with the start of the fall sports season (first scrimmage, preview, or game contest).

C. A student enrolled in the first grading period after the advancement from the 8th grade must have passed 4 of those subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

D. To be eligible in grades 7-8 students must be currently enrolled in a member school and have received passing grades in 4 of the subjects in which enrolled the immediately preceding grading period.

BLOOM-CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS.....

A. Students must maintain a 1.75 Grade Point Average each grading period.

B. If a student's grades fall below a 1.75 G.P.A. at the conclusion of a 9 week grading period, he/she will be ineligible for the following 9 week grading period. The GPA of the preceding grading period (NOT cumulative GPA) will determine eligibility. An athlete who fails to meet the GPA minimum requirement may request a WAIVER to reinstate eligibility. The waiver must be signed by a parent/guardian and can only be used once in middle school and one time during high school (1 waiver total in middle school and one total waiver in high school, not per school year).

C. Students must also not have three or more grades below 70% or two grades below 60% at any weekly eligibility check.

D. If a student has three or more grades below 70% or two grades below 60% at any weekly eligibility check they are assigned to study table until the next eligibility check. Study tables will be held after school for thirty

minutes and will be held weekly after a grade check at the conclusion of the 5th week of each grading period until the end of each grading period. Students assigned to study table must attend 2 sessions each week or they become ineligible for game contests that are scheduled for the following week, barring an excused absence. If a student is ineligible due to the GPA requirement, they may be assigned to study table. In these instances, the student must meet study table requirements or will not be permitted to practice the following week (since they would already be ineligible for game contests due to the GPA requirement).

E. A student who is ineligible may continue to practice at the discretion of parents and coach, but is expected to uphold requirements as set forth for all eligible team members.

F. Eligibility checks will begin at the conclusion of the 5th week of each grading period of each school year and continue each week until the conclusion of each 9 week grading period through the remainder of the new school year.

G. Athletes are required to be enrolled in and complete five subjects per semester (at a minimum) and meet OHSAA requirements.

H. A student enrolled in the first grading period after the advancement from the 8th grade must have passed 5 of those subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled. This is a higher standard than required by the OHSAA that only requires an athlete to pass 4 classes.

H. Flex Credit (high school only): Students engaged in a flex credit program must receive a 9 weeks grade or a “Pass / No pass” mark at each grading period in order for the course to be considered as a credit for athletic eligibility.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Each athlete must have a physical examination form on file in the Athletic/Activities Directors office before he/she will be permitted to participate in practice. A current physical must be in the Athletic office for all school summer athletic events. **It is recommended that all paperwork be completed and in the Athletic office prior to the last day of school the preceding year.**

TEAM MEMBER AWARDS

Any award given to a team member that may be personal in nature must be approved in writing by the OHSAA. The guidelines for personal type items are explicit in Bylaw 5, AWARDS, Section 1 Awards Approved, of the OHSAA Handbook:

5-1-1 Awards as a result of participation in interscholastic athletics which may be accepted by the student from any source consist of those items which do not exceed \$500.00 in value per award.

5-1-2 College scholarships may be accepted provided the amount of the scholarship is paid for college expenses.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES/PARENTS

I. BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Student athletes found participating in any act of unacceptable conduct such as theft, vandalism, indecent exposure or assault are subject to denial of participation for 20% of the season from all athletic contests. Conduct considered to be unacceptable due to posts, comments, photos, etc. on any social media platform deemed serious in nature may also be subject to denial of participation. On the second such violation, the student athlete will be subject to denial of participation for the remainder of the season and for the next season in which the athlete participates. A third violation may result in the student athlete being denied participation in athletics at Bloom-Carroll.

Suspension: Any student suspended from a sport must serve his/her suspension in a completed athletic season. If the student athlete would quit the sport or be removed from the team for disciplinary reasons before the season ends the suspension would carry over to the next sport enrolled in.

Student athletes are expected to follow a code of ethics at all times, which will entitle them to the respect that they have earned. Conduct resulting in dishonor to a student either during or outside the school day reflects not only on the student, but also the school, team and community they represent.

Alleged violations of a serious nature (either during or outside the regular school day) may be reviewed by the Athletic Director at the request of the building principal. If a determination is made that the student's actions constitute a major violation of accepted standards, the student may be denied participation in athletics at Bloom-Carroll. A student athlete denied participation for the duration of a season is ineligible to receive any form of athletic recognition. Infractions that are deemed serious in nature may result in a substantial denial of participation and/or removal from a team as determined by the Activities Director, and may receive this consequence in place of the 20% penalty as listed above.

Student athletes and parents of student athletes are expected to treat all visiting athletes, coaches, fans and officials with the respect that they deserve. **Unsportsmanlike behavior, including intimidation, berating of opponents, coaches or officials will not be tolerated.** Violations of these expectations will result in removal from the premises. Continued unsportsmanlike behavior will result in being banned from attending athletic events, both home and away.

II. BLOOM-CARROLL DRUG TESTING POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes the interscholastic athletic program as an integral part of the entire educational program. Through participation in interscholastic athletics, students are provided an opportunity for educational and character-building experiences.

The athletes assume responsibility for regulating their personal life in ways that will make them effective members of a team and worthy representatives of their school. Drug use/abuse by student athletes is a major detriment to these goals. The Board believes that by implementing a drug-testing program it will encourage students who want to participate in interscholastic athletics to remain drug free.

The purpose of this program is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of all student athletes; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for student athletes to refuse to use illegal drugs; and (3) to encourage student athletes who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs. The program is non-punitive. It is designed to create a safe, drug-free environment for student athletes and assist them in procuring help when needed.

OVERVIEW

The procedure for initial and random drug testing of athletes is accomplished in conjunction with an independent drug-testing vendor selected by the Board of Education. Each season, the vendor is provided a list of eligible student athletes by the Athletic/Activities Director, and in turn randomly selects a minimum of 3% of these athletes for drug testing per week throughout the season. The vendor will send qualified collectors to the school who will oversee the collection of all specimens as outlined in this document. After testing, the vendor will forward test results to the physician serving as Medical Review Officer (MRO) for interpretation and verification of results. Positive results are reported to the Athletic/Activities Director by the MRO. Random drug testing of a public school interscholastic athlete is legal as determined by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Veronia School District 47J(Oregon) v. Wayne and Judy Acton*.

1. CONSENT

Students participating in interscholastic athletics (grade 9-12) at Bloom-Carroll **must participate in a drug-testing program.** Prior to the initial drug testing of a student, the student and the parent/guardian/custodian must sign a form consenting to the drug testing. Testing of a minimum of 3% of the athletes each week on a seasonal eligibility list will be conducted randomly throughout their season.

2. PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

a. Informed consent for testing

At the beginning of each year, student athletes and parent/guardian/custodian will complete and sign the Bloom-Carroll School Athletic Code of Conduct and Informed Consent Agreement (via Final Forms). No student may participate in practice or competition until this form is properly executed and on file with the Athletic/Activities Director.

b. Drug testing frequency

At the beginning of each sport season (as determined by the Ohio High School Athletic Association or sanctioning organization or when a student moves into the District and joins a sport), athletes wishing to participate in athletics are subject to testing for illicit or banned substances as specified in #7 below. This policy does not provide for a medical exception for cannabinoids or medical cannabis (cannabis, cannabidiol/CBD, medical marijuana, THC). A minimum of 3% of eligible in-season students will be randomly tested per week during the season until the completion of all contests for that sport. Another four (4) randomly selected out-of-season athletes will be tested weekly as well. Those names will be drawn from rosters from the previous school year. Any high school student who was on an out-of-season roster the previous school year will be eligible to be randomly tested. **Any student athlete who refuses to submit to drug testing will not be permitted to practice or participate in athletics at Bloom-Carroll Local Schools for one calendar year from the date of refusal.**

c. Sample Collection

Samples will be collected as outlined under Vendor Requirements, #4 below. Any eligible student athlete selected randomly for drug testing who is not in school on the day of testing will be tested at the next random collection..

3. CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESULTS

All drug test results are considered confidential information and will be handled accordingly. Student confidentiality will be maintained by all parties for all specimens, forms and reports.

4. VENDOR REQUIREMENTS- At a minimum, the vendor must be able to provide the following services:

a. Random selection of student athletes

Once a seasonal eligibility list is provided by the Athletic/Activities Director, the Vendor must randomly and confidentially select the required number of student athletes. The Vendor will notify the Athletic/Activities Director of the dates and times for specimen collection. The schedule will not follow any recognizable pattern. The selected students' names will be given to the Athletic/Activities Director upon arrival at school. Arrangements will then be made for these students to report to the collection area.

b. Collection of Specimens

The Vendor will oversee the collection of specimens as outlined in the Procedures for Drug Testing of Students in Interscholastic Athletics. Chain of custody forms will be provided by the Vendor that meet the criteria of this Policy and that of the testing laboratory. Students will be given as much privacy as possible in obtaining the specimen.

c. Testing of Specimens

The Vendor will have all specimens tested for the specified illicit or banned substances by a qualified laboratory certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) following the guidelines of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The testing laboratory should have experience in toxicology testing and chain of custody procedures. All specimens must be initially tested using an accurate immunoassay technique, with all presumptive positive results then confirmed by a Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectroscopy (GC/MS) confirmatory test for all applicable tests. For those drugs with no current GC/MS method (e.g., LSD), confirmation testing will be performed using a scientifically valid method.

The testing laboratory(s) must be able to test for the illicit or banned substances or their metabolites in collected specimens.

The Athletic Director may specify specific classes or substance to be tested routinely or randomly.

d. Medical Review Officer

Fairfield Medical Center will arrange MRO services by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the State of Ohio. The MRO must demonstrate a willingness to abide by the Procedure for Drug Testing Students in Interscholastic Athletics regarding the evaluation of drug tests. The MRO will report positive findings to the Athletic/Activities Director in a timely and confidential manner, and all results will be kept on file by the MRO for a period of years.

e. Reporting of Test Results by Vendor

The Vendor will forward by mail or fax all drug testing results to the designated MRO. The MRO will certify all random drug screens as negative or positive and report by telephone positive findings in a confidential manner to the Activities Director.

f. Statistical Reporting and Confidentiality of Drug Test Results

The Vendor, testing laboratory, or MRO may not release any statistics on the rate of positive drug tests to any person, organization, news publication or media without expressed written consent of the Bloom-Carroll Local Schools Board of Education. However, the Vendor will provide the superintendent with a quarterly report showing the number of tests performed, rate of positive and negative tests and what substances were found in the positive specimens.

5. PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE TEST RESULT

Drug testing is performed by collecting a saliva specimen from the student athlete. If the immunoassay screen is positive for an illicit drug, the same specimen undergoes confirmation testing using GC/MS methodology or other scientifically valid method. Only after the confirmation are positive results reported. After testing is completed, negative specimens are stored for five days, and positive specimens are stored a minimum of one year.

During a student's career, positive results are cumulative, regardless of the sports in which the student has participated.

a. First Positive Result

For the first positive result, the student athlete will be given the option of the following:

1. Nicotine and/or Alcohol:
 - a. Denial of participation for 50% of the season's contests. If within five calendar days the student schedules an appointment with a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for a chemical dependency assessment and follows the recommendations of the counselor, the denial of participation may be reduced to 20% of the season's contests. (If treatment is recommended it must be with an Ohio Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor.) The student must also submit to drug testing as advised by the case counselor. The student must also provide proof of the successful completion of all counselor recommendations to the Athletic/Activities Director. Parent/Guardian/Custodian is responsible for all expenses; OR;
 - b. Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics at Bloom-Carroll for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season in which the athlete participates. A student may not choose to participate in a

sport that they did not participate in during the previous school year in order to meet the requirements of a denial of participation.

2. Other Banned Substances (other than nicotine/alcohol) as listed in the student athlete handbook:
 - a. Denial of participation for 100% of the season's contests. If within five calendar days the student schedules an appointment with a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for a chemical dependency assessment and follows the recommendations of the counselor, the denial of participation may be reduced to 50% of the season's contests. (If treatment is recommended it must be with an Ohio Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor.) The student must also submit to drug testing as advised by the case counselor. The student must also provide proof of the successful completion of all counselor recommendations to the Athletic/Activities Director. Parent/Guardian/Custodian is responsible for all expenses; or;
 - b. Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics at Bloom-Carroll for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season in which the athlete participates. A student may not choose to participate in a sport that they did not participate in during the previous school year in order to meet the requirements of a denial of participation.

b. Second Positive Result

1. Nicotine and/or alcohol
 - a. The student athlete will be denied participation for an additional 50% of game contests (based on maximum contests permitted in a season per OHSAA guidelines). If 50% of the total game contests are not available, then said denial or participation will carry over to the next season in which the athlete participates. (For example, 50% of a varsity football season is 5 games of the permitted maximum of 10. If only 2 regular season games are left, the denial of participation would carry over to the next season if there are no more football games played after the 10th game).
2. Other Banned Substances (other than nicotine/alcohol) as listed in the student athlete handbook:
 - a. The student athlete will be denied participation in athletics at Bloom-Carroll for the remainder of the current season and the next athletic season in which the athlete participates.

If a second positive test includes "other banned substances" and the first positive test included only "nicotine and/or alcohol", then the penalty for the second positive test will result in the consequence outlined in the second offense for "other banned substances".

c. Third Positive Result

For the third positive result (includes any and all banned substances as listed in the Student Athlete handbook), the student athlete will be permanently denied the privilege of participation in athletics at Bloom-Carroll Local Schools.

d. Possession

In the event a student athlete is caught in the possession of or use of a banned substance or products including but not limited to tobacco, nicotine, e-cigarettes, or any look-a-like substance that could reasonably be considered a tobacco product, he/she will be denied participation using the guidelines of a positive test result (following the disciplinary consequences for nicotine/alcohol or other banned substances as described above).

When determining the number of games/contests encompassed by a denial of participation, the following guidelines will be used:

- Football: Percentage of 10 games (i.e. 20% equals 2 games)
- Fall cheerleading: Percentage of 10 games (i.e. 20% equals 2 games)
- Boys/girls golf: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests
- Cross country: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests
- Volleyball: Percentage of 22 matches (maximum matches permitted by OHSAA)
- Boys/Girls soccer: Percentage of 17 matches (maximum matches permitted by OHSAA)
- Boys/Girls tennis: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests
- Boys/Girls basketball: Percentage of 22 games (maximum matches permitted by OHSAA)
- Winter cheerleading: Percentage of 22 games (maximum matches permitted by OHSAA)
- Wrestling: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests
- Swimming: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests
- Baseball/Softball: Percentage of 27 games (maximum matches permitted by OHSAA)
- Track and Field: Percentage of regular season scheduled contests excluding OHSAA tournament contests

When the percentage of games to be denied results in a decimal, the number of games will be rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, 2.4 games will round down to 2 games. 2.5 games will round up to 3 games.

6. NON-PUNITIVE NATURE OF THE POLICY

No student athlete will be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or banned substances. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic record. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the Bloom-Carroll Local Board of Education will not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's parent/guardian/custodian will be notified at least 72 hours before the response is made by the Bloom-Carroll Board of Education or to the extent permitted by such subpoena or legal process.

7. ILLICIT OR BANNED SUBSTANCES

For the purpose of this Policy, the following drug classes, substances or their metabolites that can be tested for are considered illicit or banned for athletes at Bloom-Carroll Local Schools. The list includes but is not limited to

Alcohol	Marijuana Metabolites	Opiates	Benzodiazepines
Amphetamines	LSD	Methadone	Phencyclidine
Anabolic Steroids	Propoxyphene	Methamphetamine	Nicotine & Metabolites
Barbiturates	Cocaine Metabolites	Methaqualone	

8. **APPEALS** – Per Ohio Revised Code 3313.664, students prohibited from participation in all or part of any extracurricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

TRANSPORTATION

Students participating in extracurricular activities shall be transported to activities from school by one of the following methods:

1. **SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION** - This is the preferred method of transportation to activities, however; it is recognized that in certain instances, school bus transportation may be unavailable because of regular bus routes, distance traveled, or size of group.

2. **PRIVATE CARS DRIVEN BY COACHES OR STUDENTS**-This is the least preferred method of transporting students to activities and must be only used as an absolute last resort (specifically athletes participating in practices off site, i.e. golf, tennis, swimming, etc.). The use of coach or student drivers must be approved by the building principal or the Activities Director.

Students must travel to and from a contest, scrimmage, etc. on school-provided transportation. Students may not leave a site with another adult or another student. The only exception would be students traveling home from (or in rare instances to) a contest or scrimmage with their parents or legal guardian. In this instance the coach must be contacted in person by the parent (no second-hand conversations). **Parents should be advised that we do not allow students to leave with adults or students other than legal guardian or parent. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Special permission for students of driving age to travel to or from a site may occasionally be necessary. Permission for students to drive themselves must be obtained from the principal or Athletic/Activities Director.

Athletes who miss the bus either to or from a contest site may be subjected to disciplinary actions.

Coaches are to be sure that a copy of a signed emergency medical authorization for every team member, stat and trainer is in their possession on any bus trip.

TRYOUT PROCEDURES

The tentative number of participants to be kept in an activity shall be announced to the initial group that reports for tryouts. The coach may limit the number of participants lacking the necessary ability in the sport or activity. Any participant who has enough ability to remain through the first round of cuts will be given an explanation when eventually dropped from the activity. It is not indicative that prior participation in a sport or activity the previous year will guarantee participation the following year.

GENERAL AWARD GUIDELINES

1. An athlete in a program sponsored by the Athletic Department may receive only one letter.
2. Varsity letters will be issued to participants who meet the eligibility criteria established in a varsity sport only.
3. Participants who are not eligible for a varsity letter will receive a certificate and recognition in the awards program.

VARSITY AWARD INFORMATION

- A. First-year letter winners will receive a letter, bar, and a certificate.
- B. Second-year letter winners in a sport will receive a bar and a certificate.
- C. Third-year award winners will receive a bar and a certificate.
- D. Fourth-year award winners in the same sport will receive a plaque rewarding them for receiving four varsity letters in one sport.
- E. **Athletes who qualify for state level competition in individual sports will be awarded a state qualifier patch. An athlete who does not make it to state competition but wins the district will be awarded a district champion patch. Teams will be awarded a patch for a League or District championship, or a football playoff appearance.**

SPECIFIC AWARDS GUIDELINES

Each head coach may include further requirements for earning a varsity letter in a sport. Any student athlete that quits a team or chooses not to finish a season may not be eligible to earn a varsity letter. The following are minimum standards as set by the Athletic Department that must be met to earn a varsity letter in a particular sport:

The **All Ohio Wall** is for the honoring of 1st Team All-Ohio athletes only. An 8" x 10" photo of the athlete will be displayed. Relay teams will be displayed as a group and not as individuals.

FOOTBALL, BOYS BASKETBALL, GIRLS BASKETBALL, SOCCER

1. Participate in 1/2 of the available quarters/halves (varsity).
2. Quarters/halves missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
3. A quarter played in football is defined as participating in two consecutive downs in the same quarter except for specialists such as kickers, punters, holders, and snappers where one play will be defined as a quarter played.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

VOLLEYBALL

1. Participate in 1/2 of the total available games (not matches).
2. Games missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
3. A game played is defined as participating in any portion of the game.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

CROSS COUNTRY

1. Participate in 3/4 of all races available.
2. Races missed due to injury/illness are not available.
3. A race participated in is considered to be completing the race.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

BOYS GOLF/GIRLS GOLF/GIRLS TENNIS/BOYS TENNIS

1. Participate in 3/4 of all matches available.
2. Matches missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
3. A match is defined as completing the entire match.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

WRESTLING

1. Participate in 3/4 of all scheduled points available. (Per OHSAA, a dual match is worth 0.5 points, a tri is 1.0 points, a quad is 1.5 points, a 1 day tourney is 2.0 points, and a 2 day tourney is 3.0 points)
2. Meets/Matches missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
3. Any athlete that qualifies for the district tournament will automatically earn a varsity letter.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

1. Participate in 3/4 of all games available.
2. Participate in 1/2 of all innings available.
3. Pitchers must participate in 1/4 of all games or meet above criteria.

4. Games/innings missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
5. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

TRACK

1. Participate in 3/4 of all meets available
2. Participate in a minimum of 2/3 of available invitational meets.
3. Meets missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

SWIMMING

1. Participate in ¾ of all meets available.
2. Score in ½ of non-invitational/relay meets or place in the top 8 in any two invitational/relay meets.
3. Meets missed due to injury/illness are not counted as available.
4. Seniors who have participated for a total of three years, the last two consecutively, will letter.

In the event of an injury to a student athlete that causes the athlete to miss part of or all of the season, the head coach may use his/her discretion in conjunction with the Athletic Director on whether or not to issue a varsity letter. In order for an injured athlete to earn a varsity letter, the athlete must remain an active member of the team (attend practices, game contests, team activities, etc.)

EQUIPMENT/UNIFORMS RESPONSIBILITY

Equipment issued to students as part of an extra-curricular activity must be returned in its original condition allowing for normal wear. **All equipment/uniforms issued must be returned or paid for within one week following the activity's conclusion.** Unauthorized possession or failure to pay for lost equipment will result in a denial of participation and recognition in all extracurricular activities until payment is made or the equipment returned. Settlement to the Board of Education or Activity Account responsible for equipment will be made for the replacement cost of the article.

OUT-OF-SEASON CONDITIONING/PREPARATION

Conditioning in advance of the regular season is sometimes necessary to allow groups to perform at their maximum potential and to limit the possibility of injuries. It is also beneficial for students to have opportunities to participate in supervised activities outside the regular school day. These opportunities should be regulated in a manner that limits undue demands on student time and avoids potential conflicts between coaches of different sports. In-season athletes are not permitted to attend out of season conditioning, open gyms, etc. without the mutual consent of both sports' coaches.

GUIDELINES:

It is the philosophy of the Bloom-Carroll Athletic Department that direct involvement in activities is more beneficial than off-season conditioning. Therefore, any out-of-season conditioning must be organized in such a way that allows in-season groups to begin practice and establish their membership before out-of-season conditioning begins.

In an effort to control the demands upon the time of students, coaches might limit out-of-season conditioning to the season immediately preceding their regular season.

Exceptions to these guidelines may be granted in situations such as Baseball/Softball, where conditioning in the winter is impractical.

All conditioning/preparation must be conducted in a manner following OHSAA guidelines and MSL guidelines.

Supervision of these conditioning/preparation programs must be by a certified staff member or other persons approved by the Bloom-Carroll Board of Education to work with extracurricular activities.

COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC SIGNINGS

The Bloom-Carroll Athletic Department will conduct signing ceremonies on a National Signing Day on dates set by the NCAA for those athletes signing a National Letter of Intent (not a celebratory signing letter or other similar document), as well as one afternoon signing ceremony each spring, with date to be determined. Athletes who are not signing a National Letter of Intent or who may be but did not participate on National Signing Day may all choose to sign at this school sponsored event. Signings to be conducted on dates other than those aforementioned will be conducted at the discretion of each individual athlete, but may not include Bloom-Carroll Athletic Department participation.

