



BLOOM-CARROLL MIDDLE 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 moral.
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 times 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 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 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 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 **\$100.00** per participant with a maximum of **\$200.00** per year for any given individual.

B) There will be a "family maximum" of **\$300.00** per year that would be satisfied by any family having 2 or more participants in 2 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.**

## **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. 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.

## **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 posted for students to review. It is recommended that each student sign a statement declaring that he/she has received a copy, 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 coach before a decision is made. This form shall state the nature of the violation and be signed by the coach 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 7 and 8 a student must be currently enrolled in a member school and have received passing grades in any 4 subjects in which they were enrolled during the immediately preceding grading period.

**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 contest).

**C.** In order to be eligible during the first grading period of High School after the advancement from the 8th grade, a student must have passed any 4 of those subjects carried the preceding grading period in which the student was enrolled.

### **BLOOM-CARROLL MIDDLE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

**A.** Students must maintain passing grades in any 5 subjects in which they are enrolled each grading period.

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

**C.** 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 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays after school for thirty minutes. Students assigned to study table must attend 2 of the 3 sessions each week or they become ineligible for game contests that are scheduled for the following week, barring an excused absence. Written notice will be sent to parents in every instance of ineligibility.

**D.** 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.

**E.** Eligibility checks will begin at the conclusion of the 5<sup>th</sup> 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 next school year

**F.** Athletes are required to be enrolled in and complete a minimum of 5 subjects per semester. This is a higher standard than required by the OHSAA that only requires an athlete to pass 4 classes.

**G.** 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.

## **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Each athlete must have a physical examination 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. A blank physical form is attached to this

document. **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 by the Athletic Director in accordance with OHSAA guidelines. The guidelines for personal type items are explicit in Bylaw 5, AWARDS, Section 1 Awards Approved, of the OHSAA Handbook:

5-1-1 Awards resulting from participation in interscholastic athletics may be accepted by a student from any source provided the award does not exceed in value \$500.00 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 in violation of any act of unacceptable conduct such as theft, vandalism, indecent exposure, or assault are subject to denial of participation for a period equal to 20% of the season from all athletic contests. 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. Third violations may result in the student athlete being denied participation in athletics at Bloom-Carroll.

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 Council 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. Student athletes denied participation for the duration of a season are 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.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Students participating in extra curricular activities shall be transported to activities from school as listed below:

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. Alternative methods of transportation may be considered on a case by case basis.

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 of parent. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

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 trips.

## **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**

An athlete in a program sponsored by the Athletic Department will receive one certificate for each sport played.

### **EQUIPMENT/UNIFORM RESPONSIBILITY**

Equipment and/or uniforms issued to students as part of an extra curricular activity must be returned in its original condition allowing for normal wear. **All equipment issued must be returned or paid for within one week following the activities 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.