

AuSable Valley Central School District

Interscholastic Athletic Rules and Eligibility Certification

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Person to contact in case of emergency: Name: _____ Phone: _____

1. Introduction

Each athlete who represents AuSable Valley Central School is expected to act with dignity and decorum throughout the sports season and school year. Through sports, athletes can develop a positive self-image and sense of fair play. These characteristics will carry on into later life and will enable them to be productive members of society.

Good sportsmanship is a priority in interscholastic activities and athletes at AuSable Valley are encouraged to accept their role in developing and promoting positive sportsmanship behaviors. These actions should extend to their teammates, coaches, opponents, officials and fans.

2. Participation

Athletes and their parents should be aware of AuSable Valley's philosophy regarding participation. All members of our teams should have an opportunity to play. The sports at the modified levels will have the emphasis placed on participation and every effort will be made to play everyone sometimes during each contest. At the junior varsity level more emphasis will be placed on team success. However, an attempt will be made to play as many players as possible in each contest. At the varsity level a greater emphasis is placed on team success. Those students with higher skill levels are expected to play more than lesser skilled players and it should not be expected that every player would enter every contest.

The following procedures will be followed if cuts need to be made on the modified level:

- a. Coach and Athlete Director will meet to decide whether cuts need to be made based on the number of athletes trying out for the team.
- b. The minimum number of athletes on any modified team is double the number required to play. (Ex. 11 players of soccer field = 22 minimum number on modified soccer team)
- c. Parents/Guardians and athletes will be notified by a letter, which will be given to the athlete during the first few days of practice, if cuts are being made. It is the responsibility of the athlete to share this letter with his/her parent/guardian.
- d. A minimum of a five-day try out period will be held before any cuts are made.
- e. If an athlete is cut from one sport they are encouraged to talk with the Athletic Director about other athletic activities that may be available during that season.

3. Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other Drug Use

It is known that certain substances (tobacco, alcohol, drugs) have a significant negative impact on many aspects of one's total health. Therefore, it is the philosophy of the AuSable Valley Central School District to forbid the use or possession of these substances by athletic program participants. The intent of these regulations is to set a reasonable standard of commitment that all student athletes are expected to follow. Upon approval of the Athletic Director, coaches may enforce additional team rules.

- a. Rules

- i. There will be no use or possession of any tobacco products, alcoholic beverages or any drugs (except by physician's prescription).
 - ii. There will be no attendance at any bar or private party where alcohol/drugs are being used. Only in unusual circumstances will this procedure be altered, with permission from the Athletic Director or Principal. This would be for attendance only; consumption is always prohibited.
- b. Violation Consequences

First Violation: After confirmation of the first violation, the athlete has a choice of either all of Option A or all of Option B.

Option A:

- The athlete shall lose eligibility for two season contests or two weeks of the season, whichever is greater.
- The athlete must still practice with the team during his/her loss of eligibility.
- The athlete, of his/her own volition, becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program, treatment program, and/or educational instruction; whichever is deemed necessary and recommended by the guidance department.
- If a captain, he/she will lose that privilege for the remainder of the season.
- The athlete will not be eligible for any school sports awards at the end of the sport season.
- If the athlete violates any part of Option A, he/she will automatically revert to Option B.

Option B:

- The athlete will receive eight weeks suspension from all sports activities.
- The athlete will not be eligible for any school sports awards at the end of the season.

Second Violation: After confirmation of the second violation in the same school year the athlete will lose eligibility from athletics for the remainder of the school year. The athlete of his/her volition, may go to counseling and after proof of successful counseling, appeal to the Principal for the reinstatement to athletics. The Principal will make the final decision.

4. Attendance/Tardiness/Early Sign Out

A student athlete is expected to attend school unless there is a legal excuse for the absence as outlined in the school's attendance policy. An athlete who is absent from school for the entire day may not participate in practice or competition that day unless that Athletics Director or Principal grants permission.

A student athlete is expected to be on time for school unless there is a legal excuse for the tardiness as outlined in the school attendance policy.

A student athlete who signs out early from school without a legal excuse as outlined in the school attendance policy, may not participate in practice or competition that day unless permission granted by Athletic Director or Principal.

5. Referrals

The following consequences result from referrals during any athletic season:

- First Violation - no action taken
- Second Violation - athlete will be given a warning
- Third Violation - athlete must attend but not participate in one practice session
- Fourth and any subsequent violation - athlete will be suspended from the next scheduled contest

6. Academics

Student athletes are expected to not only maintain but hopefully improve their academic performance during the season. The district policy regarding academic eligibility will be in effect for all student athletes.

7. Participation in Physical Education

A student athlete is expected to participate in Physical Education classes unless medically excused. Unexcused non-participation in Physical Education classes during sports season will result in the following consequences:

- First offense: student will receive a warning
- Second and any subsequent offense - student will not be able to practice or compete on that day.

8. Equipment

Equipment (including uniforms) issued to each student must be properly cared for and not be abused. It is the responsibility of the student to return all equipment to the coach at the end of the season. The student must pay for all items lost or stolen. No school awards will be granted until full restitution has been made. The student will not be allowed to participate in any other interscholastic athletic activity until the matter is resolved.

9. Dropping/Changing a Sport

A student athlete who joins a team is expected to continue on that team for the remainder of the season. The coaching staff at AuSable Valley Central School is extremely concerned about students dropping a sport and feel it is imperative that our students adequately handle their responsibilities as young adults. Therefore, any athlete wishing to drop a sport or change from one sport to another must meet with the Athletic Director to discuss the issue.

10. Due Process

Due process is available to all participants. Any athlete who violates a provision of the Athletic Rules is entitled to a hearing before the Principal or designees. A decision will be made within two (2) school days following the hearing. The athlete has the right to appeal the decision to the Superintendent, the Board of Education, and finally the Commissioner of Education. During the process, the suspension/consequences will be in effect. If the appeal is successful, any record of the case in the student's file will be destroyed.

Parent/Guardian and student/athlete will sign ONE contract that will cover the entire athletic sport year - 3rd week of August to the last week in June. The intent of this designation is that there be no gap between seasons for the purpose of these rules.

Student Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____