

WALLA WALLA VALLEY ACADEMY

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

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SECTION I Introduction

Participation on an athletic team can be a rewarding and meaningful educational experience that enhances a student's secondary education. It is important that students and parents realize the time demands, responsibility and dedication required when making this kind of commitment. The following defines the interscholastic policies and procedures for all students participating in athletics at Walla Walla Valley Academy.

SECTION II A Statement of Philosophy

Why Competition?

Competition is a common experience for all individuals in today's society and is present in all aspects of life. It exists between groups and individuals and has the potential to provide positive growth opportunities as well as the potential to create negative outcomes. Competition, therefore, should be a very integral part of the educational process and one that deserves a great deal of attention and guidance. If we disregard competition individuals will emulate what they see around them in society, which, in many cases is a very unhealthy model. Our goal is to become healthy competitors.

The Healthy Competitor

Individuals that are given the tools to handle competition in a healthy manner will become healthy competitors. A healthy competitor is an individual who possesses several positive attributes. He or she is an individual who values teamwork, sportsmanship, perseverance, a healthy work ethic, and maximum effort of themselves and of their competitors. A healthy competitor values and respects themselves, their performance, as well as their competitor and their competitor's performance. The healthy competitor keeps all things, including the contest, in a well-balanced perspective.

True Competition

The healthy competitor believes in true competition. True competition involves two parties coming together bringing their very best effort to the contest. True competition is not a place for showing off or putting down, rather it is a place for bringing out the fullest potential of each person and rewarding hard work and teamwork with success. Success is not measured in wins or losses for the healthy competitor rather success is measured by effort and the process of competing.

With this in mind, while each contest demands a “winner” and a “loser”, both competitors can achieve positive results by focusing on the effort put forth by both parties. “Success is a journey, not a destination”, sums up how the healthy competitor looks at a contest. The contest in and of itself is not the defining moment, but rather it is the process of getting there that is important.

A High Standard

In closing, it is a high standard that healthy competition calls its participants to. Competition becomes a way to learn positive attributes that will manifest themselves in all areas of our lives. When we become healthy competitors we will applaud the success of others and strive harder each day to succeed ourselves. This frame of mind will facilitate growth in every aspect of our lives from our relationships with others to our relationship with Christ.

At Walla Walla Valley Academy, we consider athletics an integral part of the educational experience. Athletics provides opportunities that will help students develop physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally. We view athletics as a healthy educational and physiological activity because it challenges each student to excel, to discover his or her God-given physical gifts, and to work cooperatively with team members. While winning is a natural goal in our competitive/instructional program, the pursuit of excellence, the principles of good sportsmanship and enjoyment of healthy competition takes precedence at all times and enhances the educational value of contests. It is through this process that the athletic program seeks to help develop confident and mature Christian young men and women.

SECTION III Governing Bodies

Walla Walla Valley Academy is a member of the Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), whose purpose is to plan, supervise and administer the interscholastic activities approved and delegated by the school district board of directors for Washington State. As a WIAA school, Walla Walla Valley Academy(WWVA) abides by the standards set forth by this organization. The WIAA handbook can be accessed at wiaa.com. Please note that these are minimal standards and member’s schools may enforce stricter standards, which WWVA does in many instances. Locally, WWVA belongs to the Eastern Washington Conference(EWAC) which is comprised of B2 classification area schools in WIAA District 5. Schools in this district include WWVA, Tri City Prep, DeSales, Dayton, Liberty Christian(Richland), Mabton, White Swan, Kittitas and

Lyle/Wishram(softball, baseball). We also compete against teams from other leagues, and these are referred to as “non-league” opponents. This program is monitored by the athletic director in consultation with the athletic council which includes the principal and selected parents.

SECTION IV Administrator's Responsibility

A) Supervision of Program

The principal is responsible to see that all policies are being enforced and followed throughout the year.

B) Scheduling Administrators for Athletic Events

The administrator is responsible for scheduling for proper administrative supervision at all home athletic events.

C) Reports to the School Board

Keeps the board informed of the athletic program’s status.

SECTION V ATHLETIC DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A) Budget

The Athletic Director is responsible for the fiscal stability of the athletic program. The budget for athletics is not funded by the school, the budget is created through student fees and fundraising.

B) Schedules

The Athletic Director shall schedule all interscholastic games both home and away for Walla Walla Valley Academy Athletics. It is his/her responsibility to not schedule games that would fall during 1) Sabbath hours, 2) Final Exam Days, 3) other campus activities established by Walla Walla Valley

Academy. He/She shall work with the coaches and administration to schedule all practices as to not conflict with the school program.

C) Coaches

The Athletic Director shall provide qualified coaches for each sport.

D) Officials

All games shall be officiated by qualified and certified officials. It is the role of the Athletic Director to schedule assignors for each sport.

E) Travel

Travel for athletic teams to and from games is the responsibility of the Athletic Director. All team members shall travel with the team. Anyone not associated with the team may not travel with the team.

F) Academic Responsibilities

The Athletic Director shall submit all eligibility forms for the athletes prior to any games. He/She shall make certain each athlete is academically eligible to participate in the athletic program.

SECTION VI Program Goals

Though the unique nature of each sport dictates its specific objectives, all teams will attempt to:

- Demonstrate Christian sportsmanship
- Emphasize the development of basic skills, appropriate attitudes, values, and team concepts.
- Give all students a chance to participate in the benefits derived from team membership.
- Compete competitively with league and non-league opponents.

SECTION VII Athletic Participation

WIAA student eligibility requirements for participation in high school athletics are very detailed. The WIAA regulations have been condensed here in an attempt to highlight the most important rules and regulations. As with all WIAA rules, there is a waiver process. Both the school principal and athletic director must initiate a waiver of WIAA rules. If the information below does not answer specific questions, or there is a concern that a waiver might be necessary, please contact the Athletic Office. A complete copy of the WIAA Rules can be found on www.wiaa.com

Students must be regular members of the school they represent in order to participate in an interscholastic athletic activity. Students are a "regular member" of a school if they are enrolled half time or more, exclusive of interscholastic athletic activities.

A student shall be under 20 years of age on September 1 for the fall sports season, on December 1 for the winter sports season, and on March 1 for the spring

A student who transfers from any school to a WIAA member high school is ineligible to participate in any interscholastic contest at any level for a period of one year in all sports in which that student participated at the varsity level or its equivalent during the one year period immediately preceding the transfer. "varsity participation" is defined as any appearance, as a competitor, in a varsity interscholastic contest other than a scrimmage. Students who seek an exception to this rule must prove "hardship" for their transfer and this is presented to the district eligibility committee. For a more detailed explanation of the "hardship" rule please talk with the Athletic Director.

- In order to participate in organized athletics, all student-athletes must register and pay fees through familyid.com, have a current physical on file with the school office, and satisfy all academic requirements for eligibility.
- An up-to-date physical examination must be on file with the school office prior to the start of participation. If the physical examination expires during the season, the student-athlete will need to provide an updated physical to

the school office in order to resume participation. All physicals are valid for 24 months from the date of the physical. All physicals must be signed by a licensed healthcare provider. Forms for the doctor can be picked up at the front office, or downloaded from the website at wwva.org/athletics. It is important to note that students cannot participate in any contest or practice until this physical is completed.

- Adhere to the Drug and Alcohol Policy as clearly defined in the registration information. It is expected that all student-athletes and parents will review this policy.
- Satisfaction of all eligibility requirements of the WIAA and WWVA. This policy requires that students currently have at least a C grade in all subject areas. During the season grades are checked by the athletic director every Friday and emailed to students and parents. Students not meeting the eligibility criteria are not eligible to travel or participate in contests with the team. Low grades due to extenuating circumstances will be handled in consultation with the athletic director, teacher, and student.

SECTION VIII TEAM INFORMATION

Individual Commitment

Each member of an athletic team will:

- Commit to being present at all team activities, including tryouts, practices, meetings, and contests with other schools.
- Dedicate himself/herself to becoming an excellent team member and school citizen.
- Strive to continually improve as an athlete.
- Demonstrate pride in team performance as a member of a team.

Athletic teams

Walla Walla Valley Academy offers a variety of athletic opportunities for all students to participate in depending on the amount of participants.

Fall Sports

The fall season begins August 24th and ends in late October. Varsity teams that qualify for the postseason tournament may participate into the month of November.

Informational meetings will be held in August. The following sports compete in the fall:

- Soccer (Varsity, JV)
- Girls Soccer
- Coed Cross Country
- Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, C team)

Winter Sports

The winter season begins the 3rd Monday after Thanksgiving and ends in late February. Varsity teams that qualify for the post-season tournament may be participating into March. Informational meetings will be held in November.

- Girls/Boys Basketball (Varsity, JV, C team)

Spring Sports

The spring season usually begins the first Monday of March and ends in late May. Varsity teams that qualify for the post-season tournament may be participating into June. Informational meetings will be held in February.

- Baseball (Boys Varsity)
- Golf (boys/Girls Varsity)
- Track (Boys/Girls Varsity)
- Softball (Girls Varsity)

Walla Walla Valley Academy is committed to providing the following teams for all sports assuming there are enough participants:

C Team

At this entry level for high school athletics, students and their parents should expect the following to be emphasized:

- Development of fundamental skills.
- Equal practice opportunities for all participants.
- Evaluation of an athlete's attitude, skills, and team role to determine playing time.
- The framework to evaluate and fairly implement equitable playing.
- Learning the rules of the game.
- Focusing on physical conditioning and development.
- Developing an orientation toward and appreciation for team effort in each athlete.
- Demonstrating sportsmanship and fair play.
- Developing the ambition to achieve at the next level.

- Prioritizing skill and character development over winning.

JUNIOR VARSITY

This is a transitional level for high school athletics. Students and parents should expect the following concepts to be emphasized:

- Reinforcement and refinement of fundamental skills.
- The coach's evaluation of a student's attitude, skills, and team role to determine playing time.
- Demonstration of good sportsmanship and fair play.
- Developing more sophisticated athletic strategies.
- Specifically defining an individual athlete's role within the team concept.
- Refining and reinforcing the concepts of commitment and team play.
- Focusing on physical conditioning and development.
- Developing the ambition to achieve at the next level of competition.
- Prioritizing skill and character development over winning.

VARSITY

At the highest level of athletic competition in high school athletics, students and parents should expect the following concepts to be emphasized:

- Developing a high level of proficiency in the physical skills of the sport.
- Coaches evaluation of an athlete's attitude, skills, and team role to determine playing time.
- Developing sophisticated strategy, situation analysis, and other mental aspects of the sport.
- Specifically defining an individual athlete's role within the team concept.
- Fostering maximum commitment to the athletic team.
- Understanding and valuing the physical conditioning components of one's sport.
- Understanding the importance of individual sacrifice for the good of the team.
- Winning within the rules of sportsmanship and fair play.

Playing Time

The athletic program at Walla Walla Valley Academy is an instructional/competitive program whose goal is to provide solid instruction for all players to prepare them for higher levels of healthy competition. As a result, hard decisions need to be made about team personnel, positions, playing time, etc. With this in mind WWVA athletics has the following policies in place:

- Every effort is made to form a team for every player to play on. Unfortunately there are times when cuts will have to be made for a team due to lack of funds to hire extra coaches or lack of playing opportunities for that team.
- Junior varsity players on the “bubble” will be selected to play junior varsity and invited to practice with the varsity squad.
- Senior players as a rule who do not make varsity will be placed on the C squad, JV team or invited to be a practice player on varsity if there is space available. Depending on the amount of players and/or experience of players, seniors could be invited to play on the junior varsity squad.
- Selection of players for a team is based on the talent and work ethic of players, not according to what year they are on in school.

There are many decisions made on a regular basis by members of our coaching staff that include which athletes should start a contest, which athlete should play what positions, and the amount of playing time an athlete will be given. Only members of our coaching staff will make these very difficult coaching decisions after weighing a considerable number of factors. Generally, the most competitive, skilled team members will play the major portion of contests; however, teams cannot be successful without committed substitutes. As with starters these athletes must work as hard as they can to help make their respective teams as competitive as possible, and be ready at all times to step forward to compete. They must also demonstrate the perseverance and commitment to strive to advance to a starting role.

Team Tryouts and Selection

During the tryout period, each coach will provide an explanation of expectations. The coaching staff of each sport has the sole responsibility for selecting members of the team, determining the level of play, and the amount of playing time for each student athlete. Participation at the varsity level is generally limited to the most highly skilled players and those with the ability to interact constructively with other players for team success. The coaching staff will determine the level of play for each student-athlete (varsity, junior varsity and c team) based on what would be most beneficial to the development and progress of each player and team.

It is the duty of the student to demonstrate to the coach that they can fulfill these expectations. Players not selected for a team, are encouraged to contact the coach personally for an explanation. Our coaches will not speak with a parent about their child's current placement until after the student has spoken with the coach.

Students who are not selected are encouraged to explore other WWVA athletic opportunities on teams that have not finalized their rosters. Please note: WIAA Rule 35 states that a student athlete participating in any sport must have at least 10 practices before competing in an official game. For this reason, an athlete will not be allowed to join a team after its third official practice without the approval of the Athletic Director and coach. Switching sports is also not allowed after the first contest.

Playing time is based on attitude, work ethic, and skill. At the sub varsity level coaches will be more liberal with the playing time since the goal on these teams is to allow the younger players opportunities to develop skills and use them in a contest. As players progress to higher levels, more thought is given to putting players in the position best suited for them based on skill and physical attributes in the context of being successful as a team.

Transportation

When WWVA provides transportation to and from athletic events, student-athletes are required to ride that transportation. The members of the athletic staff feel it is in the best interest of team unity that everyone travel together and share the game experience. As the “guardian” during these trips, the athletic staff must be able to account for the whereabouts of all student-athletes and insure their safety. It is expected that our student-athletes will conduct themselves appropriately while on bus transportation. Any misconduct will result in a penalty including and up to dismissal if warranted. Student-athletes will be responsible for any damages to bus property and subsequent costs to repair or replace.

In the event that there are extenuating personal circumstances or JV/Varsity games are scheduled back to back and a parent wishes to take responsibility for the transportation of his/her son or daughter, it is required, barring unforeseen circumstances, that the parent/guardian provide written or verbal notice to the coach requesting the exception. A parent/guardian must also present himself/herself to a member of the coaching staff informing the coach that his/her child is leaving with him/her. Student-athletes may then ride with their parent/guardian. Student-athletes may not ride with other student-athletes. Parents may give verbal or written permission for their child to ride home with another adult.

- All team members are expected to take the bus to the game. Any exceptions to that must be approved by the administration. A parent may take their student home after the game if they have notified their coach and signed their name in the scorebook. There must be written or verbal permission to have your student ride back with another parent.
- Team members should always bring a lunch on trips. The bus rarely stops to let team members eat on the way home due to the lateness of the hour that we get back.
- Team members are expected to do their homework on the bus or at the games of the team they are not playing on.
- Per policy of the school, when travelling with boys and girls teams on a bus together, there will be separate seating during night time travel.

Game/Practice Sessions

WIAA policy dictates that no team can practice and/or play 7 days in a row without a rest. Since any Saturday games we have will be after sundown, our teams will typically also not have games or practices on Sunday's. On the occasion that we do have an event on Sunday, another "rest" day will be given to the team. WIAA also requires that each athlete must have 10 practices completed before they can play in their first contest. Most weekday practice sessions do not begin before 4:00 PM with the exception of Friday after school. Any team member who must be late or miss a practice, game, or meeting, must confer with the coach. Practice and game schedules, particularly in the case of winter and spring sports, include school vacation weeks. Students and families should take this into consideration when deciding to try-out for our teams. Unexcused absences from practices may jeopardize retaining a position on the team, an opportunity to earn a varsity letter, and/or playing time at the coach's discretion.

Excused absences from practices may impact position on the team and playing time, not as a punitive measure, but for the safety of that individual, fairness to the rest of the team, and strategic reasons. Practices are held daily Monday-Friday for approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours, or as appropriate to the activity. Some practices may be held on weekends as dictated by the coaching staff.

Vacation

To minimize class time missed for athletic events there are matches and practices that are sometimes scheduled during vacation times. These events are scheduled well in advance, and parents are encouraged to check the schedules to see if conflicts occur with their vacation time and these events. It is expected that the student athletes will be available to be present during these team activities. Parents

and athletes need to communicate with their coach about potential conflicts ahead of time.

Team Captains

Captains are elected by team members and/or appointed by coaches. Prior to the selection, coaches will inform the team members of the selection criteria and obligations of the position. The position of team captain or officer is one of honor, leadership, and responsibility. As a result, students serving in that capacity are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner both in and outside of school. Any student who is involved in a violation of WWVA rules (this includes Chemical Health Rule) and regulations resulting in a suspension from school, or any student who is found to be involved with drugs, alcohol, weapons, or crimes outside of school will lose the ability to serve as captain or to be appointed or elected to the position of captain of any school sponsored team for the period of one calendar year. Any sitting captain of a WWVA team will have that position rescinded and will be ineligible to serve for a period of one calendar year.

Athletic Honors and Awards:

To be considered for a team award presented by the coach, a student must:

- Display upright conduct and a spirit of fair play at all times.
- Exhibit respect for school personnel, coaches, game officials, and opponents.
- Not violate the **WWVA** Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Return all uniforms at the completion of the season
- Meet criteria established by the coach.
- Finish the season in good standing on the team, which includes being academically eligible.

Honors such as All-League selection are awarded to WWVA students from time to time by the Blue Mountain League (BML) and other organizations outside of the school. It must be understood that while coaches may nominate students for some of these awards, they have no control over the final selection. Students who have violated the Personal Conduct Policy will not be eligible for nomination.

Receiving a varsity letter is an honor reserved for those student athletes who have demonstrated excellence in performance and the commitment and sacrifice appropriate for membership on a varsity team.

- Varsity Award
 - First award-a chenille “WV” letter with a sport insert, a year pin, and certificate.

- o Second & third awards-a sport pin and a certificate.
- o Subsequent awards-a year pin, and a certificate.

Students who are on a varsity team, participate in fifty percent of the contests, and complete the season, shall receive a varsity letter as long as they have excellent attendance, work ethic, and have not violated the WWVA Chemical Health Rule.

- Male and Female Athlete of the Year Awards
 - o The recipients of this award will receive a trophy and their names will appear on the perpetual plaque in the administration building.
 - o This award goes to the male and female athletes that best exemplify the goals and attributes of WWVA Athletics.

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAQUES: A picture plaque listing the team's accomplishments will be presented to teams winning the Washington State Championships

Varsity Letter Requirements

- The Varsity "WV" letter shall be presented to students who have satisfied the participation requirements listed below, completed all team obligations and/or received the recommendation of the Head Coach.
 - Basketball
 - Participate in fifty percent of the games played
 - Soccer
 - Participate in fifty percent of the periods played.
 - Softball
 - Play in one-fourth of all innings played
 - Pinch hit or pinch run in three fourths of the games played.
 - Pitch in four starts or six game appearances.
 - Baseball
 - Play in 1/4 of all innings played

- Pinch hit or pinch run in 3/4 of games played
- Pitch in 4 starts or 6 plate appearances
- Golf
 - Participate in 3/4 of all matches
- Track
 - Achieve 30 points during the season
- Volleyball
 - Participate in fifty percent of the games played.

SECTION VIII COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

A) Code of Ethics

The coaches shall make every effort to conduct the sports program in such manner as to give full and active support to the educational aims of Walla Walla Valley Academy. The coaches shall have thorough knowledge of the academic rules and standards of Walla Walla Valley Academy and give active evidence of full support.

All coaches shall conduct their sports programs in such a manner as to assure that the major emphasis is placed on building character, sound health practices, and broad educational aims. These attributes are for those who participate in athletics, as well as those who are fans. Each coach will always strive to live up to and have their athletes live up to WWVA's philosophy of athletics.

B) Tryouts

All students at Walla Walla Valley Academy who are deemed eligible are invited to participate in an open tryout. All coaches must post notices of date, time, and place of such tryouts.

C) Practices

Coaches in conjunction with the Athletic Director shall establish practice schedules for each sport. It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure the quality of each practice.

SECTION IX: Conflict Resolution

Athletic involvement can be highly emotional and issues about playing time, team selection, honors and awards can arise. It is very important that these issues be addressed as soon as possible, and as directly as possible, so that they can be resolved promptly. The following model will be used when a problem arises:

Step One: Personal Contact between Student & Coach

As a general rule, the issue should be presented as soon as possible to the coach by the *individual* student-athlete. If personal contact is not practical, a student-athlete may ask his/her team captain to speak with the coach.

Step Two: Personal Contact with Parent, Coach & Student

When taking this step please use the following protocol:

Wait 24 hours after a triggering event to calmly and respectfully email or phone the coach asking to set up an appointment with them your child. You may also ask the office to set up an appointment for you. These appointments will not take place:

- Either prior to or immediately after a competition.
- During a practice session.
- During a time when other students may be present or when it may be readily apparent to others that a discussion is taking place.
- At a time when it is apparent that there would not be sufficient time to provide for a complete discussion.

This meeting needs to happen with your child present. There might be times when you feel your child should not be at this meeting, but unless we are talking about something confidential, the athletic department requires that your child be present.

We ask as soon an event happens that it be dealt with expediency. If you have not dealt with the conflict by 48 hours from the triggering event, then we ask that you not bring the matter up in the future. The athletic department strongly feels that this counterproductive to drag up stuff from the beginning of the season that was never dealt with. Keep in mind that this concept does not apply to abusive

situations! All concerns of alleged abuse must be presented whenever they come to light.

Step Three: Personal Contact with Coach, Student, Parent & Athletic Director

If a satisfactory resolution is not reached through direct contact with the coach, the student, and/or parent(s) should contact the Athletic Director. As a courtesy, the coach should be informed that this contact is being made. If this discussion does not result in a satisfactory conclusion, then a meeting will be scheduled involving all concerning parties in an attempt to reach a satisfactory resolution. It is very important for all student-athletes and their parent(s) to know that any comments, concerns, or *issues raised to the athletic director will be addressed with the coach.* Issues concerning coaching personnel may or may not be communicated to others.

Step Four: Student-Athlete – Administration Contact

If there is not a satisfactory resolution, the student-athlete and/or parent(s) should contact the High School Principal. As a courtesy, the Athletic Director should be informed that this contact is being made. There is no guarantee that all parties will agree with all resolutions or findings, however, a respectful discussion can lead to more productive relationships and clearer understandings in the future.

SECTION X STUDENT ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES

Eligibility

Students entering Walla Walla Valley Academy from elementary school, junior high, or transferring in must meet the following requirements:

- No D's or F's in any class.
- Be enrolled at WWVA at least halftime.
- Maintain minimum progress toward high school graduation.
- Meet all WIAA eligibility guidelines.

Continuing Eligibility

All student athletes must be a student in “good standing” in order to participate in athletics. “Good standing” is defined but not limited to:

- Adherence to school rules that regulate behavior and attendance.
- Respectful behavior towards all members of the school community.
- Meet the academic expectations required of an athlete.

Daily Attendance

Any student-athlete absent from school the day of scheduled game or practice session will not be allowed to participate in that game or practice. A student must be in school for a minimum of 3 ½ hours in order to participate. Students who cut class will also be ruled ineligible for participation. Students are also expected to maintain good attendance throughout the season.

A student is considered to not be in good standing during the season of play/activity if he/she has a suspension or skips class. A student found not to be in good standing may be denied the privilege of participating in an interscholastic sport or extracurricular activity.

Academic Conduct

Students will plan their time so that they can devote sufficient energy to their studies to ensure grades representing their true work in class.

- Students must maintain a C grade or higher in each class they are enrolled in to be eligible for athletic competition. Grades are updated in Renweb by teachers each week on Friday afternoon. A student who is academically ineligible will remain ineligible until the following Friday unless cleared by the Athletic Director and the teacher. Athletes will not be cleared for play on the day of a game. The athletic director will consult with teachers and students about non updated grades on Renweb that keep a student ineligible for athletic participation.
- Missing assignments may affect a student's athletic eligibility and will be monitored from the athletic director's office in consultation with the teacher. Students will be expected to complete these assignments in order to maintain their eligibility.
- Students are expected to be in class the day after an away game. Parents should not excuse their child's absence from class or classes because their child is tired from the night before. If a pattern develops, the administration has the right to withhold further participation in athletics.

If a player misses more than five days of practice, he or she will need to meet with the Athletic Director who will determine that player's eligibility, as governed by the policies of the WIAA.

Personal Conduct

- **Honesty and Integrity**

Honesty in the classroom and during the contest is expected at all times.

- **Representation**

Student Athletes are considered representatives of the school at all practices and contests and school events. Students will conduct themselves properly when traveling as they represent the community, school, and team. Profanity will be not be tolerated.

- **Respecting the Spirit of the Game**

Students will realize that officials do not lose a game, but are there for the purpose of ensuring the game they are playing is a fair and safe contest for all participants. The officials will be shown courteous respect at all times. Student-athletes will also not employ illegal tactics to gain an advantage.

A player “thrown out” of a game shall, at a minimum, miss the next game. A player “thrown out” of 2 games during the same season is disqualified for one full calendar year. Striking or assaulting an official result in disqualification for one full year.

- **Respect for the Coaching Staff**

Students will understand that their coaches have their best interests in mind as they plan and guide the athletic team. They will obey the specific rules of the coach.

- **Respect for school buildings and grounds**

Students will understand that damage to the school building, grounds, or school equipment will result in immediate suspension from the team. The length of such suspension will depend on the severity of the damage as determined by the Athletic Director and Coach.

- **Uniforms**

Students are responsible for and expected to maintain proper care of uniforms issued to them. Uniforms lost, stolen or damaged will be assessed at a rate comparable to the current replacement cost. Student-athletes are not to wear uniforms, either practice or game, at any time other than those allowed by specified team regulations. All uniforms are to be returned at the completion of the season.

- **Alcohol and tobacco**

School and WIAA rules and regulations are intended to discourage the use of alcohol, tobacco, legend drugs, controlled substances and paraphernalia and to encourage the use of school and community resources. School and community resources should be identified for students who have had a violation and seek help

or who are referred for assessment. Due to the harmful effect upon the health of the individual, all athletes will refrain from the use of: tobacco, drinking alcoholic beverages, and abusive drugs of any kind. Verification of any of the above will result in immediate dismissal from the team.

Each WIAA member school shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the use of alcohol or tobacco products that are specific to the middle or high school levels. Below is the WWVA substance policy. Penalties for the possession, use or sale of legend drugs (drugs obtained through prescription and controlled substances shall be as follows:

1st Violation - A participant shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition in the current interscholastic sports program for the remainder of the season. Ineligibility shall continue until the next sports season in which the participant wishes to participate unless the student accesses the assistance program outlined in option B (see below.)

An athlete that is found to be in violation of the Legend drugs and controlled substances rule shall have two options:

A. The athlete will be ineligible for participation in contests for the remainder of that interscholastic sports season and must meet the school's requirements in order to be eligible to compete in the next interscholastic sports season. The school principal will have the final authority regarding the student's participation in further interscholastic sports programs.

B. The athlete may choose to seek and receive help for a problem with use of legend drugs or controlled substances. Successful utilization of school and or community assistance programs may allow him/her to have eligibility reinstated in that athletic season, pending recommendation by the school.

2nd Violation - A participant who again violates any provision of the school drug and alcohol policy shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the second violation.

3rd Violation - A participant who violates for a third time the school drug and alcohol policy shall be permanently ineligible from competition.

Section XI: Parent & Fan Responsibilities

A) Policies

Parents and fans are expected to honor the policies and goals of the Walla Walla Valley Academy Athletic Department. Furthermore, they are expected to model positive and Christian like attributes at all athletic events. Failure to do so may result in the ejection from the event and possible forfeiture of attendance to future events. The Athletic Director and Administrator on duty will make all decisions regarding fan conduct.

B) Code of Conduct

- No unethical or unsportsmanlike advantages are to be sought over others.
- Visiting teams are to be honored guests of the home team, and should be treated as such.
- No action is to be taken nor course of conduct pursued which would seem unsportsmanlike or dishonorable.
- Remember parent and student spectators represent their school the same as a player does and are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship.
- Any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship will not be allowed to attend future contests.
- Decisions of officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair.
- Officials and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in their intentions. Officials are off-limits for fans. DO NOT yell or make comments at the officials before, during, or after the match no matter what the perceived error or injustice. Players must learn to perform under adversity and to not waste emotion or effort on things, not within their control, and we expect the fans to do likewise. Any concerns regarding this should be directed to the Administrator on duty and/or the Athletic Director.
- Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.

- The practice of “booing” and heckling is regarded as discourteous and unsportsmanlike and will not be tolerated. Be vigilant about enforcing great sportsmanship to those around you. If someone is being inappropriate please notify the supervisor in charge.
- While in the gymnasium, keep all comments positive—remember, you are sitting among parents from the other schools.
- Please do not compare the skill or attitude of a player out loud with other members of the team, or fans around you.
- Cheer for your team's success never the mistakes of the opponents.
- Take the time to learn more about rules and strategy of the game.

"There are four positions on an athletic field: spectator, referee, coach, and player. You get to choose one and only one."-- Bruce Brown

FINAL MESSAGE TO ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES, SPECTATORS AND PARENTS:

We urge you to support WWVA Athletics by:

- Attending sporting events.
- Lending positive support to our teams and coaches.
- Encouraging all players without regard to their role on the team.
- Helping other spectators and parents to maintain an appropriate sportsmanlike attitude.
- Showing respect for the authority of the game officials.
- Enjoying the Walla Walla Valley Academy athletic experience.

Go Knights!