

TEKONSHA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



2022-2023 Athletic Guidelines Handbook

Adopted by the Tekonsha Board of Education
August 10, 2022

2022 – 2023 TEKONSHA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

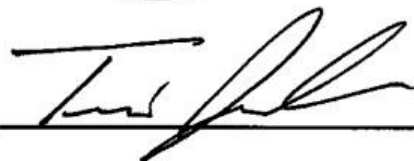
ATHLETIC GUIDELINES HANDBOOK

An athletic program has many components if it is to be a well-rounded successful experience for student-athletes. We at Tekonsha Community Schools are dedicated to a program that will provide these experiences.

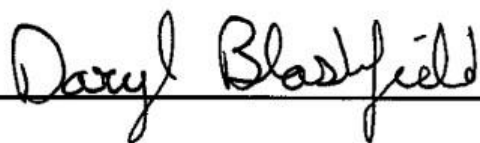
The following Philosophy, Goals and Objectives will help direct the Athletic Department, Coaches, Administration and Board of Education in providing an athletic program of which students, staff, and the community can look to with pride.



**Superintendent
JoEllen O'Keefe**



**Athletic Director
Tim Jenkins**



**President, Board of Education
Daryl Blashfield**



PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS:

The welfare of all students should be the guiding principle of the athletic program.

Participation in interscholastic athletic competition is a privilege that must be earned and held.

Behavior that will gain and hold the respect of adults, fellow students, and younger children is to be expected of all student-athletes at all times.

The development and maintenance of good health through proper health habits and strict adherence to training rules is expected of all athletes.

Athletics are understood to be secondary to the general learning experiences of the classroom. Good athletes are good citizens.

GOALS:

- To promote greater interest and participation in athletics by the students in the school.
- To challenge each athlete to prepare themselves both physically and mentally to the fullest extent.
- To develop the competitive attitude which is so necessary both in athletics and daily life.
- To field teams of physically fit, enthusiastic, and positive thinking athletes.

OBJECTIVES:

The athlete will develop a sense of fair play, self-discipline, a competitive attitude, and the ability to work with others.

The athlete will develop an understanding of and trust in their coach and fellow team members. They will develop pride in being a member of the team.

PROGRAM - LIST OF SPORTS:

Football
Cross Country
Girls Basketball
Boys Basketball
Volleyball
Cheerleading
Track
Baseball
Softball
Wrestling

SCAA LEAGUE SPORTSMANSHIP

BE A FAN, NOT A FANATIC

Tekonsha schools, in conjunction with the Southern Central Athletic Association (SCAA), Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA), and the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS), will help encourage positive citizenship and sportsmanship at all sporting contests.

ALL WHO ENTER THIS CONTEST AGREE TO:

Let officials officiate.

Let coaches coach.

Let players play.

Treat all that are involved with the utmost respect and courtesy.

Accept no taunting, baiting or trash talking among coaches, players and fans.

Cheer with pride for accomplishments and ignore mistakes of all participants.

MAKE SPORTSMANSHIP A PRIORITY

In every facet of our lives we have an opportunity to exercise the fundamentals of good sportsmanship. As coaches, athletes and fans we set the tone and lead the way. Good sportsmanship is both our greatest accomplishment and greatest gift to our middle and high school athletic experiences. Make good sportsmanship a priority in our lives and a staple of Tekonsha, SCAA, MHSAA and NFHS competition.

GENERAL POLICIES

TRANSPORTATION (Team)

All efforts will be made by the district to provide school bus transportation for travel to all athletic events with an approved adult. (This should be a coach, teacher or parent). Low numbers or extenuating circumstances may warrant individual transportation. Whenever a coach wishes to use cars for transporting a student or students, this should be cleared with the Athletic Director or the Principal.

At the beginning of each season the athletic office will produce a bus schedule for all coaches, central office, and transportation director. All changes will function through the athletic office. The athletic office should be notified of any desired or necessary changes, additions, depletions or corrections to the published schedule. Requests for special runs should be made in time to make necessary preparation.

When school buses are used, the following general rules should be observed:

1. A first aid kit must accompany all athletic trips and contain the "Emergency Medical Forms" for each athlete.
2. The coach will assume all responsibility for conduct and discipline on the bus in conjunction with the driver who is ultimately in charge.
3. All athletes should be instructed to be at the point of departure 15 minutes prior to the designated time.
4. The coach is responsible to see that the bus is left in a clean condition.
5. All students are expected to dress appropriately and neatly for out of town trips.
6. All participants are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times on activity trips. Foul language or obscene actions will not be tolerated.
7. Only assigned personnel may ride on school transportation. No spectator or coaches' family members are permitted.
8. No spikes or cleats are to be worn on school transportation.
9. The coach will check with the driver to be sure that students have everything off the bus upon return to the school.
10. The coach will see to it that the locker room of the host school is left in clean and orderly condition with no damage. Report incidents involving team members to the Athletic Director as soon as possible.
11. Under certain circumstances or exceptional situations where it creates an inconvenience to the family, athletes may be excused from riding. The student can only be excused with a written request from their parents.
12. Cell phones will be allowed on the buses for athletic events if approved by the bus driver. If the phones become a disruption the driver will confiscate the phone and turn it in to the principal.

ATHLETICS & SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

The following rules are in effect for the school year concerning attendance and participation in sports:

1. An athlete should be in attendance a full day in order to practice or compete, unless otherwise determined by the athletic director/principal. Any athlete not in attendance as stated, who participates in practice or competition without the approval of the athletic director/principal, will be suspended from further athletic participation until the respective coach and athletic director meet to decide what appropriate action should be taken.
 - a. If a student-athlete has a pre-arranged absence through the principal or his designee.
 - b. We recognize that there may be extenuating circumstances in some cases regarding an absence. In this case, the athletic director will make the decision.
2. If an athlete receives OSS (out of school suspension), that suspension begins at 3:00 pm on the day that it is received. If an athlete has a game on the day that he/she receives notice of OSS, he/she will not be able to participate until the OSS has been served.

GUIDELINES FOR 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE TRAINING RULES:

1. Training rules are in effect for all athletes and potential athletes beginning the first day of fall practice in August and ending the last day of the school calendar, or the school athletics calendar, which occurs later.
2. All student-athletes must attend a pre-season meeting with the principal, athletic director, and coaches before they can participate in athletics. At this meeting, policies, expectations, and procedures will be explained. Only one mandatory meeting per school year is required. If parents cannot attend the meeting, a meeting will be arranged at school for parents to attend.
3. Behavior unbecoming an athlete shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Use of/or possession of tobacco or any other tobacco products, including vaping
 - b. Drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages
 - c. Use, sale, or possession of a controlled substance or look alike or uncontrolled substances imitating controlled substances
 - d. Fighting
 - e. Stealing
 - f. Vandalism
 - g. Malicious destruction
 - h. Extortion
 - i. Coercion
 - j. A felony or any law-related violation resulting in legal probation by the courts or juvenile authorities
 - k. Profanity
 - l. Any other behavior that is contrary to the safety or educational goals of the school
4. All stated training rules and penalties are minimum standards. Individual coaches may demand more of their team members and penalties may increase with the approval of the athletic director.
5. Weight training is recommended for all athletes

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF RULES:

ALCOHOL and/or DRUG VIOLATIONS

1. **THE FIRST VIOLATION** for alcohol and/or drug related offenses will result in a suspension for 4 consecutive events or 4 weeks of competition, whichever is greater. (The dates of suspension will carry over to the next season of competition.) In **FIRST VIOLATIONS**, the violator shall be immediately suspended from competition, but must remain an active member of the group and attend practices. The violator will not be allowed to dress in game uniform on contest days during the suspension, but must travel and sit with the team at all contests. If the student quits the team, the suspension will continue into the next season in which the student participates.
2. **THE SECOND VIOLATION** for alcohol and/or drug related offenses shall result in suspensions from further participation in athletics for their athletic career **OR** If the student submits to a voluntary screening through the Student Assistance Program and submits to any recommended treatment as a result of that screening, they shall lose eligibility for one calendar year from the date of the initial suspension.
3. **THE THIRD VIOLATION** for alcohol and/or drug offense will result in permanent suspension from all further participation at Tekonsha JR/SR High School.

TOBACCO/VAPING VIOLATIONS:

1. **FIRST VIOLATION**-results in the student being suspended for two dates or weeks of competition if the sport season consists of 10 or less dates of competition, 4 dates or 2 weeks of competition if the season consists of 11 or more dates.
2. **SECOND VIOLATION**-results in the student being suspended from further participation in that sport for the remainder of the season and miss the first three weeks of competition in their next sport of participation.
3. **THIRD VIOLATION**-results in suspension from athletic competition for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.

FELONIES

Result in suspension from athletics for the remainder of the school year from the date of infraction.

DUE PROCESS – RIGHT TO APPEAL

The constitutional right of individuals assures the protection of due process; therefore, this system of constitutionally and legally sound procedures is developed with regard to the administration of discipline in the school of Michigan.

A **WRITTEN APPEAL** to the athletic director must be made within 48 hours of notification of discipline. An **APPEAL BOARD** will consist of all head coaches, two student athletes, and two parents. The head coach of the sport involved will be present to add input, but will not vote. The principal will act as moderator.

DISCLAIMER

All rules listed here are a guideline and subject to administrative discretion.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility will be determined weekly. Academic requirements of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) state a student athlete must be enrolled in and successfully passing a minimum of four (4) classes. In addition, if the student athlete is carrying five (5) or more classes, the athlete may not fail more than one (1) class. Ineligibility will begin on the Monday following the grade check and continue for a minimum of one (1) week and will be extended in weekly units until the grades are brought back to or above standards. Grades will be computed on a cumulative basis from the first day of each semester.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

1. Any athlete who does not return assigned equipment at the end of the season or when requested to do so by their coach or athletic director, will be held responsible to reimburse the Tekonsha Schools Athletic Department for the full cost of replacement. That athlete will also not be able to compete or be issued equipment in his/her next sport until this has been done.
2. Any athlete or student observed with athletic equipment (football jersey, sweats, warm-up jacket, etc.) not assigned to them or rightfully purchased by them through the athletic department, will be considered in possession of stolen property. Such equipment will be confiscated and the athletic director will take appropriate disciplinary action.
3. Football, baseball, softball and track shoes will not be worn in the school building.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

1. Each student eligible to represent Tekonsha Schools in athletics must have on file in the athletic director's office a physician's statement for the current school year (Valid any time on or after April 15, 2022) certifying that the student has passed an adequate physical examination.
2. This card must be on file before the athlete may participate in a sport and before equipment is issued to the athlete.

INSURANCE

Tekonsha High School maintains a supplementary insurance policy on all students. This policy will cover any medical charges that an individual family policy does not cover. It is imperative that the individual family policy be applied before any benefits will be paid by the school policy. Should an athlete's family not have any coverage, a charge of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) deductible will be made on each injury requiring treatment.

**ADDITION TO POLICY 9130
BOARD OF EDUCATION
TEKONSHA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Matters regarding Coaching Staff and Officials

The Board recognizes its responsibility for the safety of student-athletes, coaching staff and officials. The Board also recognizes the right of the public to complaints and grievances against coaching staff and officials. To provide for the safety of the coaching staff, the Board requires any individuals with complaints or grievances against the coaching staff to resolve their issues with a scheduled meeting with the coaching staff member and/or Athletic Director. Both parties must wait a minimum of 24 hours after the event before the scheduled meeting can take place.

The Board also recognizes that verbal abuse of coaching staff and officials by spectators at athletic events does not provide a positive environment for students to participate in. Verbal abuse of officials by spectators is defined as spectators who are ejected from the sport event by the officials during the contest or confront officials after the event. Verbal abuse of coaching staff by spectators is defined as spectators who confront coaching staff during or after the event with complaints or grievances. Complaints and grievances can be addressed through the previously described process. Spectators who verbally abuse coaches and/or officials are subject to the following suspensions:

1st offense – Two-week suspension from TCS athletic events

2nd offense – Six-week suspension or remainder of that particular season,
whichever is greater

3rd offense – Suspension from all TCS athletic events for the remainder of the
school year

**TEKONSHA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CONSENT
EMERGENCY TREATMENT FORM**

Date _____

I, _____, being the parent or legal guardian of _____ give my permission for emergency medical and surgical treatment of this minor in the event that such treatment becomes necessary. I grant my permission for treatment in a licensed hospital by a licensed physician and the physician's assistants and designees including such hospital personnel as the physician may deem necessary. I understand that hospital personnel will make reasonable attempts to contact me before initiating treatment. I am aware that the practice of medicine is not an exact science and that no guarantees can be made concerning the results of treatment. **The minor named in this consent may receive all treatment provided according to generally accepted standards of medical practice with the following limitations (if none, write "none"):** _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian _____

Parent/Legal Guardian please fill in the blanks below (please print):

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Other Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Name of Family Doctor _____

Family Doctor Phone _____

MEDICAL INSURANCE CARRIER

Insurance Company _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Name on Policy _____

Policy # _____ ID# _____

Medical History: **Allergies to medication, if any:** _____

Chronic or existing medical conditions (e.g.: diabetes, epilepsy...): _____

Medications your child is now taking: _____

**TEKONSHA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS – DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS
ATHLETIC RESPONSIBILITY & CONSENT FORM**

As a Tekonsha Community Schools student participating voluntarily in interscholastic athletics, I understand that during my high school participation:

I will abide by the Tekonsha Community Schools Student Code of Conduct, these Athletic Guidelines and Training Rules, rules of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, and the laws of the State of Michigan.

TO THE STUDENT-ATHLETE:

I have read, understand and agree to obey the aforementioned rules and policies stated in this Athletic Handbook. I understand that should I violate any of these rules or policies, I am subject to the penalties expressed within this handbook. I am also aware of the risks involved in athletic participation. I know what is expected of a student athlete who represents Tekonsha High School and am prepared to so distinguish myself:

Student-Athlete Signature _____ **Date** _____

TO THE PARENT:

I have read this handbook and understand its rules, policies, and the potential risks and possible injuries involved with interscholastic athletics. I hereby give my consent and permission for the above mentioned student-athlete during their eligible high school years:

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:

Received and filed in my office on this day:

THS Athletic Director Signature _____ **Date** _____

*****This form must be detached, signed and returned to the Athletic Director, along with the proper physical card, before a student may participate in athletics. Please retain the handbook for your future reference.**