

# Platte County R-3 School District Athletics/Activities Handbook



2024-25

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## **Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation**

The Platte County R-3 School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

### **Compliance Officer**

Mrs. Ashley Jones, Executive Director of Human Resources  
998 Platte Falls Rd, Platte City, MO 64079  
Phone: 816-858-5420, Fax: 816-858-5593  
Email: [jones.ashley@pcr3schools.org](mailto:jones.ashley@pcr3schools.org)

## **Title IX**

The Platte County R-3 School District Board of Education is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from discrimination and harassment in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Part 106 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the District strictly prohibits discrimination and harassment against employees, students and others on the basis of sex in its programs, activities, admissions and in employment.

Any person may report sex discrimination – including, but not limited to, sexual harassment – whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of the conduct. This report may be made: (1) in person; (2) via mail; (3) via phone; or (4) via email. This report may be made at any time – including non-business hours.

The following individual has been designated to coordinate compliance with nondiscrimination requirements contained in Title IX. Information concerning the provisions of this act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the Title IX Coordinator. Inquiries or concerns regarding the application of this notice may be referred to our district's Title IX Coordinator. Any person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under Title IX may contact the Office for Civil Rights, One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, Suite 320 Kansas City, MO 64106, phone number (816) 268-0550.

### **Title IX Coordinator**

Dr. Chad Sayre, Student Services Director  
998 Platte Falls Rd, Platte City, MO 64079  
Phone: 816-858-5420, Fax: 816-858-5593  
Email: [sayre.chad@pcr3schools.org](mailto:sayre.chad@pcr3schools.org)

More detailed information regarding the District's Title IX grievance process rights are found in [Policy ACA](#).

More detailed information regarding the grievance procedure is found in Policy AC. The grievance form is a part of this handbook, and can be identified as Policy AC-AF 2.

Platte County R-3 School District policies can be accessed through the school's website: [www.platte county school district.com](http://www.plattecounty.school.district.com).>Leadership>Board of Education> School Board Policies.

## **Mission Statement**

The Platte County R-3 Athletic/Activities Department provides opportunities which enhance the educational experience. Our students become stronger members of their local and global community by



participating in competitive, tradition-rich programs that focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, integrity and commitment.

### **State/Conference Affiliation**

High School - Platte County R-3 High School is a member of the Missouri State High School Athletic Association and, as a member, is committed to adhere to the rules and regulations of the association. Platte County R-3 High School is a member of the Kansas City Suburban Conference-White Division. This division includes the following schools: Belton, Grain Valley, Raytown and William Chrisman.

Middle School - Platte County R-3 middle schools (Platte City and Barry) are members of the Missouri State Middle School Athletic Association and, as members, are committed to adhere to the rules and regulations of the association.

### **High School Athletics/Activities Offered by Season**

#### Fall

Boys Soccer – V and JV  
Boys Swimming – V and JV  
Cross Country – V and JV  
Girls Golf – V and JV  
Football – V, JV and 9  
Softball – V, JV and C  
Volleyball – V, JV and C  
Girls Tennis – V and JV

#### Spring

Baseball – V, JV and C  
Girls Soccer – V and JV  
Boys Golf – V and JV  
Boys Tennis – V and JV  
Track (Boys and Girls) – V and JV

#### Winter

Boys Basketball – V, JV and 9  
Girls Basketball – V, JV and 9  
Wrestling – JV and V  
Girls Swimming – V and JV

#### Activities

Cheerleading – V and JV  
Dance – V and JV  
Band – Pride, Tradition, Jazz, and Drumline  
Vocal Music – Sound Express and Choirs  
Speech and Debate – V and JV  
Scholar Bowl  
Bass Fishing  
Archery  
Colorguard

### **Middle School Athletics/Activities Offered by Season**

#### Fall

Cross Country (grades 7-8 - offered separately at PCMS/PPMS)  
Football (grades 7-8 - PCMS/PPMS combined)  
Volleyball (grades 7-8 - offered separately at PCMS/PPMS)

#### Winter

Boys Basketball (grades 7-8 - offered separately at PCMS and PPMS)  
Girls Basketball (grades 7-8 - offered separately at PCMS and PPMS)  
Wrestling (grades 7-8 - PCMS/PPMS combined)

#### Spring

Track (grades 7-8 - offered separately at PCMS and PPMS)  
Swimming (grades 7-8 - PCMS/PPMS combined)

#### Activities

Archery (grades 6-8)



Band (grades 6-8)  
Robotics (grade 7-8)  
Vocal Music (grades 6-8)

(Please see the [Athletic/Activities website](#) for a directory of coaches/sponsors)

### **Participation/Eligibility Guidelines**

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (“MSHSAA”), of which Platte County R-3 High School is a member, is a voluntary, not for profit, educational association of junior and senior high schools established for the purpose of working cooperatively in adopting standards for supervising and regulating interscholastic activities and contests.

One of the primary functions of the MSHSAA is to establish eligibility standards that must be met by all students to attain the privilege of representing their school in interscholastic activities. **ELIGIBILITY IS A PRIVILEGE TO BE GRANTED BY THE SCHOOL TO A STUDENT, WHICH ALLOWS THAT STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES. ELIGIBILITY IS NOT A STUDENT’S RIGHT BY LAW.** Each individual coach may establish rules and regulations for team participation that are more stringent than rules and regulations applicable to the student body as a whole.

#### Age Limitation

If student reaches age nineteen (19) prior to July 1, they will be ineligible for the entire following school year, provided their attendance occurred during consecutive semesters beginning with entrance into the seventh grade.

#### Citizenship

The Platte County R-3 School District and the MSHSAA expect students participating in extracurricular activities to maintain high levels of citizenship at all times, both in school and away from school. As stated in MSHSAA By-Law 2.2.1, students must be credible citizens and judged so by the proper school authorities.

#### Law Enforcement

Participants of extracurricular activities will be held accountable for their actions during the year. Per MSHSAA By-Law 2.2.2, criminal charges will be considered justification for suspension from competition. Students will remain ineligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been completed and any penalty (jail time, fine, etc.) or special condition of probation (restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. Moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol or injuries to others.

#### High School Academic Requirements

Under MSHSAA By-Law 2.3, students must meet certain academic requirements in order to be academically eligible to participate.

During the **semester prior to participation**, a student must have earned a minimum of 3.0 units of credit or have earned credit in 80% of the maximum allowable classes in which a student can be enrolled in the semester, **whichever is greater**, or a student must have made standard progress for his or her level the preceding semester in a special education program approved by DESE which, though un-graded, enrolls pupils of equivalent age.

During the **semester of participation**, a student must be currently enrolled and regularly attending courses that offer 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum credits which may be earned, **whichever is greater**, or a student must be enrolled in a full course at his or her level in a special education program approved by DESE which, though un-graded, enrolls pupils of equivalent age.



A student must be making satisfactory progress toward graduation as determined by District policy.

### Middle School Academic Requirements

Under MSHSAA By-Law 2.3, students must meet certain academic requirements in order to be academically eligible to participate. Under this by-law, a “grading period” is defined as a period of time no less than six weeks and no greater than nine weeks where progress is determined and reported to students/parents. This section of MSHSAA’s by-laws does not apply to students promoted for the first time into the 7<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grading period prior to the first day of class.

During the **grading prior to participation**, a student must have been promoted to a higher grade or higher level in special education at the close of the previous year. However, any such student who failed more than one scheduled subject, or failed to make standard progress in special education, shall be ineligible the following grading period regardless of promotion or rank

During the **grading period of participation**, a student must be enrolled in and regularly attending the normal course of that grade or must have enrolled in a full course at his or her level in any public school special education program approved by DESE which, though ungraded, enrolls pupils of equivalent chronological age.

### Suspension

A student shall not be considered eligible while under suspension. A student who is expelled from school or withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal. A student who receives in-school suspension may attend practice but not participate in a contest that occurs on that day. A student who receives out of school suspension shall not attend practice at all.

### Maximum Number of Seasons

A student is eligible to participate in any sport for a maximum of four seasons. Any part of a game played during a season counts as a season of participation. Eligibility to participate in high school activities begins when the student first enters ninth grade and lasts for the first eight semesters they are enrolled in high school. The eighth semester must immediately follow the seventh semester.

### Participating in More Than One Sport per Season

A student who has gone out for a sport but quits of their own accord will not be eligible to start practicing for another sport before the end of the competition in the sport that was dropped. The head coach of the dropped sport and the head coach of the new sport may waive this rule only under special circumstances and after discussion with the administration. Participation in more than one sport within a season is left to the mutual agreement of the student and the head coaches/administration involved.

### Transitioning Military Children

Platte County R-3 shall facilitate the opportunity for transitioning military children's inclusion in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are otherwise qualified.

### Restrictions on Non-School Competitions and Teams

MSHSAA has restrictions on non-school competition and non-school teams.

A student may not participate in any organized non-school athletic competition and school team in the same sport during the same season. Exceptions: Individual sports can participate in non-school competitions. Please consult the Athletic Director specific information.



A student may practice or compete as a member of a non-school team or as an individual participant in organized non-school competition in a sport different than the school sport season under the following conditions:

\*No school time is missed to compete, practice for, or travel to the site of such non-school competition unless the absence is approved by school administration.

\*Athletes may not practice for or compete in the non-school competition on the same date he or she practices or competes for the school team without approval of the school administration.

Before joining any non-school team or entering any non-school competition involving athletics, students should check with the athletic director to make certain these standards are being met.

### Coach Rules

The Head Coach of each sport may have rules and guidelines designed specifically for their program that are not included in this handbook. Coaches will detail their rules in their specific team handbooks and/or meetings. Any questions pertaining to eligibility that are not answered above should be brought to the attention of the athletic director.

### Violations of Participation Guidelines

Confirmation of violations to the participation guidelines must be by a coach, school administrator, school personnel or law enforcement official. If circumstances warrant, stricter penalties may be administered with the discretion of the head coach. These guidelines are in effect for any student who participates in extracurricular activities.

### **Transportation of Student-Athletes**

1. Males and females will be seated separately on the bus.
2. If a student rides to the activity on the bus, he/she will ride home on the bus unless a parent/guardian physically signs the student out with a coach. The only exception to this is when a parent makes a request both verbally and written to transport the student and receives approval from the Activities Office. In the case of an emergency the coaching staff and/or administrator will determine acceptable arrangements at the event.

### **Attendance at Scheduled Practices, Events, or School**

If it is necessary to be absent from practice or a scheduled event, the student is expected to obtain permission from the head coach prior to the scheduled practice or event. If the absence is unforeseen, the student should make every attempt to contact the head coach concerning the nature of the absence. The head coach will determine whether the absence is EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES can cost an athlete his or her position on a team, his or her opportunity to dress out for an event, or even a possible suspension or elimination from the activity in which they are involved.

School attendance is required of all of our student-athletes. Students are required to be at school all day in order to participate. Students who are absent from school on the day of competition will not be eligible for competition or practice on that day. "Absent" is defined as more than 20 minutes late to 1st hour (7:50 a.m. for HS and 8 a.m. for MS). This rule also applies for the day before an event that comes on the weekend. It is also required for student-athletes to be in attendance the day following a contest. A student-athlete who is absent or more than 20 minutes late the day after an event will miss the next contest. Absences may be excused with permission from one of the principals (this has to be pre-arranged) or a doctor's note. Do not use athletics as an excuse to miss school.





In the event that a student is assigned detention hours or make-up work as a result of a classroom problem or absence, she/he is not allowed to use the excuse of “I have practice, so I can’t stay”. The classroom obligation always comes first.

High School students must be enrolled in courses offering 3.0 units of credit, which is normally six courses. Students must have earned 3.0 units of credit the preceding semester. (i.e. Student must pass 6 classes the spring semester to be eligible the next fall semester).

Middle School students must be promoted to a higher grade at the close of the previous school year to be eligible for extracurricular activities. Student academic eligibility will also be based on a grading period of nine weeks. A student may have no more than one “F” during the grading period in order to be academically eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Grading period is defined as a quarter of the school year.

In addition to the policies and procedures stated herein, student-athletes must also meet the eligibility criteria of the MSHSAA. In addition to the policies and procedures stated herein, student-athletes must also meet the eligibility criteria of the MSHSAA.

### ***Tobacco, Vaping and Alcohol Use***

The use of tobacco related products is absolutely prohibited in or out of school. The first offense will result in suspension of 10% of contests. The second offense will result in a suspension for the remainder of the season.

The use and/or possession of a vaping device is prohibited in or out of school. The first offense will result in suspension of 20% of contests. The second offense will result in a suspension for the remainder of the season. A third offense will result in a 365 day suspension from all extracurricular activities. A vape and/or electronic smoking device that tests positive for a controlled substance will fall under the drug/alcohol policy.

The use and/or possession or distribution of alcohol or illegal substances is absolutely prohibited in or out of school. The first offense will result in a suspension of 50% of contests in the student’s current or next activity (example: 19 contests in volleyball = 9 contest suspension). If the student completes a school approved drug/alcohol class, the suspension will reduce to 30% of contests suspension. The suspension may follow into the next sport season or the next school year. Second offense will result in a 365 day suspension from all extracurricular activities. A third offense will result in the student losing the privilege of participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of their high school career.

### ***High School Athletic Awards***

#### Participation Award

A certificate will be presented to each athlete/student every year he/she meets participation standards established in that sport and is recommended by the Head Coach.

#### Junior Varsity Letter Award

A certificate will be presented to each athlete/student every year he/she meets participation standards for the Junior Varsity level, established in that sport and is recommended by the Head Coach.

#### Varsity Letter Award:

A certificate will be presented to each athlete/student every year he/she meets the letter standards established in that sport and is recommended by the Head Coach to be a recipient of the award.

When an athlete receives his/her first varsity letter at Platte County High School, the athletic department will present him/her with a chenille interlocking PC. An insignia of the sport the athlete has lettered in the first year will be awarded, and a metal bar will be awarded each year thereafter.



### "Pirate" Senior Athlete Award – Boys and Girls

A certificate will be presented to each athlete/student during their senior season if they meet the letter standard established in that sport and the award is recommended by the Head Coach.

ALL ATHLETES MUST ATTEND THE AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR SEASON IN ORDER TO EARN ANY OR ALL OF THE ABOVE AWARDS. THIS INCLUDES MANAGERS, STATISTICIANS, ETC. INVOLVED IN THE SPORT SEASON. ONLY ABSENCES PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE COACH OF THAT SPORT WILL BE EXCUSED.

ALL ATHLETES MUST MEET THE GENERAL STANDARDS FOR ALL SPORTS AS WELL AS THE STANDARDS OF THEIR SPECIFIC SPORT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR LETTER AWARDS.

### **High School Lettering Standards**

#### General Standards for All Sports

1. Attendance at Awards Ceremony is MANDATORY unless given previous permission to be absent by the head coach of that sport.
2. All equipment must be cleaned, checked in or paid for if lost or stolen. Equipment should be returned in the best shape possible.
3. Varsity letters may be awarded in special situations by judgment of the head coach. Examples of this would include seniors or injured athletes who do not reach required standards of quarters, etc.
4. The head coach reserves the right to refuse letters to any athlete not demonstrating good citizenship throughout the entire school year or to any athlete not demonstrating behavior becoming a Platte County athlete.
5. The athletic letter will only be awarded to an athlete upon recommendation of the head coach.
6. The athlete must end the season in good standing with the school and the program for which they are involved. Good standing is defined as attending all required practices, contests, and complying with all team, school and community guidelines. This includes returning all equipment in satisfactory condition.
7. PCR3 Students who have the opportunity to compete in sports provided by the district but choose to compete in outside groups are not eligible to earn a letter.
8. PCR3 students who compete in a sport offered by PCR3 but for an outside organization due to a disability may earn a letter. An example of an outside group is the National Wheelchair Basketball Association as well as other similar organizations.

#### Baseball

1. The athlete must play one third of the total innings of regular season varsity competition.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that fall short of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.
3. An athlete that suits for at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the varsity games as a role player may earn a Varsity letter.

#### Basketball – Boys and Girls

1. The athlete must play one third of the total quarters of the regular season varsity competition.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that fall short of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.

#### Cross Country – Boys and Girls

1. The athlete must compete in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the scheduled varsity meets.
2. The athlete will letter if they place and medal at any varsity competition.
3. The athlete will letter if they make the District Team (Top 10 at the end of the season).



### Football

1. The athlete must play in one third of the total quarters of regular season varsity competition.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that meet one half of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.

### Golf – Boys and Girls

To receive a Varsity letter in boys and girls golf the player must compete in at least half of the varsity events. A Junior Varsity letter will be awarded to the player that competes in half of the junior varsity events. Players will not be eligible for both areas. (i.e. Varsity letter or Junior Varsity letter, not both). The final decision of lettering achievement will be declared by the head coach.

### Soccer – Boys and Girls

1. The athlete must play in one third of the total halves of the regular season varsity competition.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that fall short of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.

### Softball

1. The athlete must play in one third of the total innings of regular season varsity competition.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that fall short of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.
3. An athlete that suits for at least ½ of the varsity games as a role player may earn a Varsity letter.

### Boys Swimming

1. A swimmer must fulfill all team requirements.
2. Swim a time below one of the following strokes (this time may be achieved in the first leg of a relay)
  - 50 Freestyle - 0:27.00
  - 100 Freestyle - 1:00.00
  - 200 Freestyle - 2:14.00
  - 500 Freestyle - 6:20.00
  - 100 Backstroke - 1:12.00
  - 100 Breaststroke - 1:17.00
  - 200 IM - 2:32.00
  - 100 Butterfly - 1:09.00
3. Special consideration will be given to four year swimmers and may be awarded a Varsity letter at the coach's discretion.

### Girls Swimming

1. Attendance, must follow all team attendance requirements
2. Achieve a Varsity time
  - 50 Freestyle - 0:31.00
  - 100 Freestyle - 1:10.00
  - 200 Freestyle - 2:30.00
  - 500 Freestyle - 7:00.00
  - 100 Backstroke - 1:20.00
  - 100 Breaststroke - 1:28.00
  - 200 IM - 2:55.00
  - 100 Butterfly - 1:20.00
3. Special consideration will be given to four year swimmers and may be awarded a Varsity letter at the coach's discretion.



### Special Olympics

1. Attend 75% of practices
2. Attend at least one large scale team event

### Speech & Debate

1. Attend 40% of available practices
  - a. Stats will be recorded throughout the season. Our season encompasses 3 different activity seasons, so while it is important that you attend speech & debate practices, this requirement is also understanding of your commitment to other activities.
2. Honor commitments made to the team by not dropping any tournaments except under extreme circumstances that have been approved by the coach.
3. Compete in at least 5 different tournaments and double-enter at least 3 tournaments.
4. Maintain at least a 2.75 GPA.
5. Secure judges, covering 14 rounds, for our home tournament, bring food for hospitality, and assist in the running of the tournament (during or before, as assigned by coach)

### Tennis - Boys and Girls

1. To receive a Varsity letter the athlete must compete in at least eight varsity matches. Singles matches and doubles matches both count toward a player's total.
2. The final decision of lettering achievement will be declared by the head coach.

### Track - Boys and Girls

1. To earn a Varsity letter, you must do one of the following:
  - Compete in the Varsity division in more than half of our meets.
  - Compete at Districts or beyond.

### Volleyball

1. The athlete must participate in one third of all varsity games during the regular season.
2. The athlete that is close to completing #1 and contributes in postseason play will earn a letter. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that meet one half of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.
3. An athlete that suits for at least ½ of the varsity games as a role player may earn a Varsity letter.

### Wrestling

1. A wrestler must earn twenty-four (24) net team points or medal in a varsity tournament, or wrestle varsity the entire season and work hard during the season.
2. A provisional letter may be awarded to underclassmen that fall short of criteria #1. This will change to a letter the following year if criteria #1 is met.

### **Online Registration (Physical Exams/Insurance Requirements)**

In order to participate in sports and extracurricular activities at Platte County High School, Platte Purchase Middle School or Platte City Middle School, students must be registered in the activity registration system (sometimes referred to as rSchool). Parents/Guardians can register their students by clicking the icon below and filling out the necessary registration information.





MSHSAA has changed its physical form. [HERE](#) is the updated complete physical form your child must take to their doctor when getting their physical. The ONLY page that must be uploaded into the PCR3 Activity Registration site is Page 5 (the page with the date of the physical and doctor's signature). We do not accept paper physicals.

**Please note:**

- Students registering for the first time must create an account, fill out all necessary information including insurance provider and policy number and upload page 5 of the new MSHSAA physical.
  - High School students select the HS form, Middle School students select the MS Form.
  - Please register for any sport/activity your child plans to participate in during 2024/25. This does not obligate you in any way but saves time in the winter/spring.
- All students who registered during the 2023/24 school year have been rolled over to the 2024/25 school year.
  - Returning students must check their personal information and re-register for all sports/activities they plan to participate in during 2024/25. This does not obligate you in any way but saves time in the winter/spring.
- There is a [Registration Tutorial](#) with step by step directions to help you get started. Once you have created an account, you will need to check for an email to activate it prior to logging in. Families with multiple kids do NOT need multiple accounts, you will simply add another registration to your existing account.
- Please complete the online registration and upload your student's physical in June.
- Online Registration NOT required for Archery, Robotics, Speech and Debate, FBLA, FCCLA or any activity where MSHSAA doesn't require a physical.

Current physical, insurance information, signed concussion materials and handbook verification forms must be collected via online registration for the current school year to be permitted to practice and participate in all sports. In 3.8.1-2, the MSHSAA handbook states:

The school shall require of each student participating in athletics a certificate of an issued physical signed and authorized by a physician, advanced nurse practitioner in written collaborative practice with a physician, or a certified physician's assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician stating that the individual is physically able to participate in athletics practices and contests of his/her school. **A student shall not be permitted to practice or compete for a school until a complete, signed certificate is on file at the school.** The medical certificate is valid for two years (730 days) from the date of issue for the purpose of this rule.

A student shall **not** be permitted to practice or compete for a school until it has verification that he or she has basic athletic insurance coverage.

If a student's online registration is missing any one of the above-mentioned forms, they will not be allowed to practice with any Platte County R-3 High School athletic team.



NO PHYSICAL FORM – NO PRACTICE  
NO INSURANCE/CONCUSSION SIGNATURES – NO PRACTICE  
NO HANDBOOK VERIFICATION – NO PRACTICE

### **Prospective College Athletes**

Any student-athlete that is interested in competing at the college level (NAIA, NCAA – Divisions I or II) is required to register with the eligibility centers. The eligibility centers will evaluate the classes that have been taken throughout the student-athlete's high school career, to determine eligibility at the college level.

- NAIA - [www.playnaia.org](http://www.playnaia.org) – cost associated
- NCAA (DI-DII) - [www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org](http://www.ncaaeligibilitycenter.org) – cost associated

For the specific academic eligibility standards, please visit the websites above

Please see the Athletic Director or the Guidance Counselor for more information.

### **Sportsmanship**

As an athlete representing Platte County R-3 High School, you have the responsibility for exhibiting good sportsmanship at all times. The moment you put on any school uniform you become a representative of your student body, your school and your community. You will receive the ingredients of good sportsmanship through the teaching, coaching and examples of the coaching staff. Exhibit the positive examples of sportsmanship you see.

A very important lesson we learn through interscholastic athletics is that by hard work and dedication we can improve. No one can tell you what you must be. If you are willing to recognize the ability you possess and work hard, you can achieve success in athletics. Attitude is one of the principal prerequisites in becoming a champion in any sort and, of course, that is best defined by how you act, how you feel and think in showing your disposition. The desire to excel, to win and to pay the price, are all positive points or attributes of attitude that contribute to a winning philosophy.

A winning philosophy is important, but realizing the importance of how the game is played is equally important. Simple acts or gestures of respect, such as displaying good conduct, cooperating with officials, shaking hands with opponents before and after the contest, showing self-control at all times, accepting decisions and abiding by them, accepting both victory and defeat with pride and compassion and never being boastful or bitter, will aid you, the individual, and your team to portray the standards of sportsmanship expected of athletes at Platte County R-3 High School. Parents and fans are asked to display good examples of sportsmanship at contests. Nothing less is expected from those who attend events.

#### A Message From the Athletes

*"It is not your game; it's ours, the players and student-athletes that are competing. We hope the spectators will watch, enjoy, encourage and be proud of us, win or lose. We need your support and enthusiasm, not your yelling and criticism."*

### **Spectator / Visitor Sportsmanship Expectations**

We expect all participants and spectators of PCR-3 events (home or away) to represent us in a positive manner by following all rules and guidelines for that event as well as by respecting all players, coaches, officials and workers. We expect all spectators to cheer for our team, but let the officials officiate, the coaches coach, and the kids play. Not following these guidelines and not showing sportsmanship and respect



to players, coaches, officials and workers may cause you to be removed from an event. If you are removed from an event for displaying poor sportsmanship or negative behavior, you may be suspended from future events and you must meet with the Activities Director to review the incident before attending another event at the Platte County R-3 School District.

### **Hazing**

The Platte County R-3 School District prohibits any form of hazing in any school-sponsored activity or program. Hazing is unacceptable conduct and anyone participating in hazing will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with Board of Education policies. No student, coach, teacher, sponsor, volunteer, or District employee shall plan, direct, supervise, encourage, assist, permit, condone, or participate in any hazing activity. Any student who has been subjected to hazing should report the incident to a coach, teacher, or other school official immediately.

### **Student-Coach Communication**

While communication between students and coaches off the playing field is encouraged in order to foster healthy working relationships, such communication shall only take place between students and coaches in group texts, group emails, or group chats. Coaches and students shall not communicate individually with each other via text message, email, social media, or otherwise.

### **Parent-Coach Communication**

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our athletic program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child in their chosen program. This begins with open communication from the coach of your student-athlete's program.

#### Communication You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Location and times of all practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off season conditioning.
5. Procedure should an injury occur during participation.
6. Discipline that may result in the denial of participation.

#### Communication Coaches Expect from Parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

As children become involved in the athletic programs within the Platte County R-3 School District, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wish. At these times a discussion with the coach is encouraged. The grievance procedures described in the Platte County High School Handbook also apply to grievances arising in the extracurricular endeavors of your child.

#### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.





Although it may be difficult when an athlete is not playing as much as a parent may hope; coaches make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all athletes involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

#### Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern:

#### Chain of Command

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment. Please do not attempt to speak with a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director. He will set up the meeting for you.
3. If the matter is not resolved with the coach, please make an appointment with the AD.
4. If the matter is not resolved with the AD, please make an appointment with the Principal.
5. If the matter is not resolved with the Principal, please make an appointment with the Central Office.

#### **Social Media**

Inappropriate use of social media by PCHS students participating in co/extra-curricular activities may result in suspension from such activities.

#### **Activities Director Contact Information**

Gabe Middleton  
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Platte City, MO 64079  
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*This handbook and the content within is neither a contract nor a substitute for the official District Board Policy Manual. Rather, it is a guide to and a brief explanation of the District policies and procedures. District policies and procedures can change at any time; and any such changes shall supersede any handbook provisions that are not compatible. The master copy of the District's Board Policy Manual is available online at our District website <https://www.plattecountyschooldistrict.com>.*

