

ERIN SCHOOL

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

HANDBOOK

Erin School
6901 Hwy O
Hartford, WI 53027
www.erinschool.org
262-673-3720
262-673-2659 Fax

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ERIN SCHOOL'S ROLE IN ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Erin School will support and promote all athletic, academic, and artistic teams at the school. We will work to provide opportunities for maximum student participation whenever possible. However, participating in athletics/activities is a privilege, not a right.

Every effort will be made to encourage participants and promote teamwork.

Erin School's Athletic/Activity Mission:

The Erin School's athletic/activity mission is to provide athletic, academic, and artistic opportunities for all of the students and to consistently encourage student participation. These opportunities will help each participating student:

- ❖ Develop an improved level of skill
- ❖ Develop an appreciation for the values of discipline
- ❖ Develop teamwork and school spirit
- ❖ Develop sportsmanship with appropriate actions and attitudes about winning and losing on and off the "field"
- ❖ Develop and display proper respect toward coaches, teachers, officials, other athletes and participants, community and him/herself
- ❖ To learn the rules and fundamentals of each sport or activity

TEAM STRUCTURE GUIDELINES

Every participant has an opportunity to compete.

Erin School will encourage all teams to have the maximum number of players to promote student participation. If an adequate number of participants for a particular team cannot be reached, students from the next lowest grade will be considered for participation. The athletic director together with administration will recommend the minimum/maximum student participation numbers for each activity and will also recommend to the Erin School Board any additional coaching requirements should they be necessary.

ATHLETICS

Erin School will follow the league guidelines for team structure and competition level. An inclusionary approach will be used at all levels.

General guidelines for game playing time will be:

5th/6th grades – all players will play in non-tournament games.

7th/8th grades – game playing time will be based on the competition level of the game (coach's discretion).

***Factors that may increase or decrease playing time are the player's attitude, attendance and ability.**

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY GUIDELINES

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Students will meet academic eligibility requirements.
- ❖ Students will follow team rules and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times (at school, events, and in the community) or they will risk losing game playing time or suspension from the team.
- ❖ Students must have a complete physical examination and turn in physical card or alternate year form before being allowed to participate.
- ❖ Students are expected to behave appropriately in school. Since athletics/activities are a privilege, those privileges may be adversely affected by poor behavior as determined by the athletic/activities director, principal, or district administrator.
- ❖ Students will turn in parental permission form.
- ❖ Students must attend school on the day of a practice or game in order to participate (unless prior permission is received from the athletic/activity director or principal.)
- ❖ Students must turn in cleaned uniform, labeled in a plastic bag to the athletic director or coach one week after the last event.

PARENT REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Parents are responsible for transportation to and from all events and practices.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for signing the permission form and paying the athletic/activity fee.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for uniform or equipment replacement costs for damage not caused during normal use or for a uniform not returned.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for ensuring that all emergency and medical information on the physical card is clear and accurate.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for their own proper conduct and sportsmanlike behavior during games as well as that of their non-participating children.
- ❖ Parents should encourage their students to display proper conduct and respect toward officials, coaches, spectators, teammates and players from other schools.
- ❖ Parents are responsible to accept the results of each game and encourage sportsman-like behavior in their child.
- ❖ All parents are encouraged to participate in supporting the athletic/activities programs by volunteering at games or tournaments, and/or fund raising activities such as the concession stand throughout the school year.

COACHES REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ Coaches are required to follow all guidelines and procedures set forth in this document and Erin School Board Policy
- ❖ Coaches are required to report all student/adult injuries to the school office.
- ❖ Coaches are required to attend all coaches meetings that the local athletic/activity director calls
- ❖ Coaches are encouraged to attend classes and clinics which will improve their coaching ability.
- ❖ Coaches are expected to provide the fundamentals of their respective activity, the basics of good sportsmanship and the benefits of team participation and camaraderie.
- ❖ Coaches are expected to come to practice, organized and prepared.
- ❖ Coaches are expected to ensure safe conditions at all times for their players.
- ❖ Coaches are expected to demonstrate effective motivational skills that provide positive and appropriate feedback to the players.
- ❖ Coaches are expected to apply specific competitive tactics and strategies appropriate for the age and skill levels involved.
- ❖ Coaches must have tournament/meets commitments pre-approved by the athletic/activities director prior to submitting form/fees.
- ❖ Coaches must have activities/meets that go above and beyond the typical scope of the schedule pre-approved by the athletic/activities director.
- ❖ Coaches must get approval from athletic/activities director or administrator for any personnel assisting the coaching activities, who in turn must fill out the appropriate volunteer forms.
- ❖ Coaches and anyone assisting the coaches are required to fill out proper documentation for background checks.
- ❖ Coaches must establish team rules, handle the set up and clean up for practices.

COACH SELECTION CRITERIA

All coaching candidates should possess the following qualities in order to be considered for employment as a coach at Erin School:

- ❖ Adequate knowledge of activity
- ❖ Ability to communicate with players
- ❖ Ability to manage and control team
- ❖ Fairness, honesty and sportsmanship

Teachers at Erin School will have the first priority in hiring. The current coach retains the position if an Erin School teacher does not apply for the position and if past performance has been acceptable in the opinion of the Athletic/activities director and district administrator. To fill openings, the district administrator and athletic director shall review resumes and interview all acceptable candidates for coaching positions. On occasions where agreement cannot be reached, the district administrator shall make the final determination as to which applicant fills the position. Background checks shall be made for all coaches who are not licensed education professionals.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION STEPS

1. All conflicts involving athletics/activities should be addressed solely with the individuals involved whenever possible. Conflict should be brought to the attention of the coach during non-game/activity setting first in order to settle the matter informally between parties (i.e... student/coach, student/student, parent/coach).
2. All concerns between parties should be addressed as soon as practical and in a respectful and confidential manner.
3. If the matter cannot be solved informally, then either party and/or the coach may submit a "Conflict Resolution" written form to the athletic/activities director for review.
4. The Athletic/activities director will contact the party(ies) involved to schedule a confidential meeting, which could include the district administrator.

Conflict Resolution Form

Submitted by: _____ Date: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

1. SUGGESTION/STATEMENT OF CONCERN

2. SPECIFIC FACTS LEADING TO SUGGESTION/CONCERN

3. ACTION WHICH IS SOUGHT

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Received by: _____

Date: _____

CREED OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

THE COACH...

- ❖ Inspires in participants a love for their activity and the desire to accomplish a personal or team goal
- ❖ Leads the participants and spectators to respect officials by setting a good example
- ❖ Is a role model for the participants

THE PARENT AND SPECTATOR SHOULD ALWAYS...

- ❖ Cheer positively and appropriately. Please refrain from bringing noisemakers or other devices that could interfere with the activity or other spectators
- ❖ Show appreciation for all good efforts and plays made by all participants.
- ❖ Keep negative emotion and comments to themselves. If there is a perceived problem with the activity's officiating, coaching, or play, issues should be addressed with the coach or athletic/activity director in a private and respectful manner.
- ❖ Allow the coach to do the coaching. If there is a problem, it should be addressed privately and respectfully.
- ❖ Understand that they are representing their family, school, and community with their behavior in the stands and audience.
- ❖ Supervise all children that attend with them at all times. Keep younger children in designated areas (gym and concession stand) available to spectators.
- ❖ **Keep all non-participants from playing on the gym floor during intermissions.**
- ❖ Students as spectators not obeying the game supervisor or Activity Attendance Guidelines will not be allowed as spectators for the remainder of the school year.