

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Livingston Parish School Board believes that the competitive athletic program is a part of the overall educational program of the school system. It also believes that the athletic program should be closely coordinated with the general instructional program of the school, and that the aims achieved through athletics should justify its inclusion in the overall educational program. The athletic program shall also be based on a spirit of non-professionalism so that participation is regarded as a privileged opportunity.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Athletics are for all students who are physically able to participate, who qualify under eligibility requirements, and who adhere to the rules set forth by state and local school officials. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain an athletic program in the school district that emphasizes participation of all students. The conduction of all athletic programs within the school district shall comply fully with regulations of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) and policies of the School Board. The School Board shall allow students to participate in as many sports activities and academic activities as he/she is capable of participating in without fear of reprisal.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

No student shall be permitted to practice or participate in any interscholastic athletic program in any public school of the Livingston Parish School Board until such student shall have furnished to the principal of the school documentation that he/she has met the following requirements:

1. Evidence of having had a physical examination by a licensed physician who shall have completed documentation as required by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA).
2. Properly complete a *School Entrance and General Health Exam Form/LHSAA Medical History* and pass a medical examination by a licensed physician prior to the first time he/she participates in a sport in a LHSAA school. Physicians may continue to use the original *LHSAA Sports Physical Form* in performing sports physicals. In addition, parents shall be required to complete the *Authorization for Release of Confidential Information*.
3. Once a student passes the initial medical examination and completes an *LHSAA Medical History Form* prior to the sports season in which he/she participates, he/she shall annually pass any medical screening or medical examination required by a licensed physician and shall update his/her

LHSAA Medical History Form as required.

4. A copy of all completed and signed medical examination and participation/release of information forms (and any others required by the School Board) must be on file at the school for every student before he/she practices or participates in interscholastic athletics during that school year.
5. Students shall sign a form consenting to random drug screening and must obtain the written consent of their parent(s) or guardian(s) for said tests in order to be eligible to participate in any athletic activity.

SCHOLASTIC REQUIREMENTS

The School Board endorses the scholastic eligibility requirements as a condition for participation in high school extracurricular activities as stipulated by the LHSAA. Scholastic requirements shall be as follow:

1. To be eligible for the first semester of the school year, a student shall have earned at least six (6) units from the previous school year, which shall be listed on the student's transcript, and shall have at least a "C" average as determined by the School Board when considering all "graded" subjects.
2. To be eligible for the second semester of the school year, a student shall pass at least six (6) subjects from the first semester. A senior attempting four (4) units in the first semester must pass all four (4) units to be eligible in the second semester. Likewise, a senior attempting five (5) units in the first semester must pass all five (5) units, and a senior taking six (6) or more units in the first semester must pass six (6) units for second semester eligibility. Under the 4 x 4 block system, a senior must be enrolled in a minimum of two (2) subjects/units per semester to be eligible to compete.
3. The LHSAA includes specific eligibility rules for special education students which must be met for their participation.
4. Block Scheduling

The following process shall be used to determine the scholastic eligibility of students enrolled in schools that schedule classes for one full credit during one semester of classes:

- A. In determining the scholastic eligibility of a student at the end of the first semester of a school year, a subjects Carnegie unit value and

the grade points earned in that subject shall be multiplied by two when calculating the student's grade point average.

- B. In determining the scholastic eligibility of a student at the end of the school year for the first semester for the next year, a subject's Carnegie unit value and the grade points earned in that subject shall count as earned (no multiplication required.)

Individual schools or the School Board may set higher, but not lower scholastic requirements for interscholastic athletic participation.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

An agreement signed by the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall be required that holds the School Board and its members, employees, agents, assigns and insurers harmless from and against any liability for any accidents involving the student while participating in such athletic activities and any injuries suffered by the student during, or as a result of, such participation. The agreement shall also authorize emergency medical personnel to treat the student in the event of an injury requiring emergency treatment.

To be eligible to participate, a student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall either (a) to decline student insurance and be fully responsible for all bills associated with any injuries suffered by the student as a result of participating in any Livingston Parish public school interscholastic athletic programs, or (b) to purchase student insurance and be responsible for any bills not covered by such insurance.

RULES VIOLATION

Adherence to the rules of athletic representation and participation shall be strictly enforced by the School Board. Any violations of athletic rules shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent by the principal. In the event that a member school, member school principal, or member school coach is penalized or cited by the LHSAA due to a violation, the athletic director, principal, and coach involved shall provide a full report to the Superintendent. If found warranted, the Superintendent in turn shall make a report to the School Board with pertinent recommendations for disciplinary action.

Revised: October 2, 2014

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Ref: La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:169, 17:176; Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators, Bulletin 741, Louisiana Department of Education; Official Handbook, Louisiana High School Athletic Association; Board minutes, 10-2-14.