

Pattonsburg R-II
Athletic Handbook
2025-2026



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Pattonsburg Athletic Handbook

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Preface

Extracurricular athletic competition is a privilege offered to students to participate in during their years as a member of the Pattonsburg High School student body. The Pattonsburg R-II School District believes that extracurricular activities provide a vehicle toward the total education of the student. As a member of an athletic team, an individual not only represents themselves, but also their team, Pattonsburg High School, and the Pattonsburg Community. Athletes also serve as role models for younger students in the Pattonsburg R-II School District. With these thoughts in mind, it is imperative that student athletes act in a manner that promotes a positive image of Pattonsburg Athletics and Pattonsburg High School.

Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA)

As a member school of the Missouri State High School Activities Association, students at Pattonsburg High School must meet all requirements of MSHSAA in order to participate in extracurricular competition.

Citizenship Standards

A student shall not be considered eligible while under suspension. The student who is expelled or who withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal. Any athlete that is removed from eligible participation in an activity as a result of discipline measures may lose his/her privilege to letter in that activity if they do not stay in good standing with the team and/or coach.

Any student athlete or participant in a MSHSAA sanctioned activity that has found themselves in a situation of being arrested, charged with breaking a law or ordinance, and/or given a court date must share this information with his/her coach and athletic director immediately. Students may not compete in extracurricular activities until all court appearances, fines, and special conditions of probation are met.

Academic Eligibility Standards

MSHSAA academic eligibility standards state that a student must pass 7 of 8 classes in a semester to be eligible for the next semester of MSHSAA sanctioned activities. A student who fails two or more classes for the semester will not be eligible during the next semester for MSHSAA sanctioned activities. This requirement begins during the student-athlete's freshman year. If a student fails two or more classes during the spring semester, he/she is ineligible for the fall semester of MSHSAA sponsored activities.

Student eligibility is also determined at the local level through standards set forth in the student handbook.

Physical Examination and Proof of Insurance

A student-athlete must submit a current physical and proof of insurance before being allowed to participate in practice or competition for any MSHSAA sanctioned athletic activity. This information will be filed with the high school office and available to all coaches and sponsors of athletic teams. Students auditioning for the cheerleading squad must have a physical and proof of insurance on file before practicing or participating in auditions.

Participation in Two Sports During the Same Season

Students may participate in two sports in one season. For instance, students may be part of the Baseball Team and Track Team during the Spring Sports Season. A student-athlete who chooses to do this must specify a primary sport at the beginning of the season. If there is a scheduling conflict, the student-athlete will participate in his/her primary sport.

Letter Qualifications

Football

1. Must be a good school citizen
2. Must play in one fourth of the quarters played during the entire varsity season.

Basketball (Boys and Girls)

1. Must be a good school citizen
2. Must play in one fourth of the quarters for the entire varsity season

Track (Boys and Girls)

1. Must be a good school citizen
2. Must score 10 points, break a school record, medal at the conference meet or score at the District meet.

Softball/Baseball

1. Must be a good school citizen
2. Must play in one fourth of the innings played during the entire varsity season

Cheerleading:

1. Must be a good citizen
2. Must attend camp
3. Must cheer in 3/4 of the season's games

Sportsmanship

All student-athletes are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship during competition, while participating in practice, and while attending sporting events as spectators.

All student-athletes must sign the student-athlete and fan code of conduct attached to this handbook before the first contest of their respective season(s).

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

When a participant is assessed a penalty by a game official for unsportsmanlike conduct, the player shall immediately be removed from the contest. At the discretion of the coach, the player may return to the contest after ample time is given to assess the situation. If a participant is ejected from a contest, the athlete will be suspended from participation in the next contest at that level. If an athlete is ejected from two contests within a season, the athlete will be suspended from play for the remainder of the season.

If an athlete has been suspended from a season due to two ejections and chooses to participate in another sport in the next season, the athlete will immediately be removed from the team if ejected from a contest.

Spectator Conduct (Sportsmanship)

Good sportsmanship is an expectation for any student/athlete/spectator at all contests/activities for Pattonsburg R-2, and as such, any violations will be addressed in the following manner:

Any spectator ejected from a contest/activity by an Official or School Administrator shall be disciplined/suspended as follows:

First Offense: Verbal and/or written warning from Pattonsburg R-2 Administration/Board of Education

Second Offense: Shall not be admitted to or attend any such contest/activity at Pattonsburg R-II for a minimum of 1 contest/activity event.

Third Offense: Shall not be admitted to or attend any such contest/activity for the remainder of that contest/activity season.

Additional offenses will be subject to review by administration and the Board of Education and may result in suspension for a period of 365 calendar days.

All violations and subsequent discipline/suspensions are subject to review by the Pattonsburg R-2 Board of Education and/or School Administration. Additional discipline/suspension beyond those outlined here may be incurred dependent on the incident/evidence gathered during any such review.

Persons disciplined/suspended may appeal any such decision in the following manner:

First: In writing or in-person with School Officials.

Next: In writing or in-person with the Board of Education. ***Once a decision is rendered final by the Board of Education, the discipline/suspension shall stand as rendered.***

School Attendance

Student-athletes must be in attendance on the day of participation in an event whether it is a practice or competition. To be in attendance, a student must be at school by 8:42 a.m. through the remainder of the school day. If a student, who attends Vo-Tech School, misses the bus, he/she must come to Pattonsburg High School by 8:42 a.m. that morning in order to fulfill the requirement to be in attendance for the full day. A student who leaves school anytime during the day due to illness, will not be allowed to participate in practice or competition on that date. Exceptions to this include doctor or dentist appointment, funeral, school activity, college visit, or other principal pre-approved absence.

Practice Attendance

Athletes are expected to attend all practices and meetings. Failure to attend may result in **loss of playing privileges for a contest or contests**, and/or dismissal from the team. Each coach will develop his/her attendance requirements. Athletes are expected to begin each season on the official start date.

Practices and Games

At Pattonsburg High School, practice sessions:

1. May start and end at different times due to the schedule of the coach or facilities. **Check with the coach for the specific times and duration of practices.**
2. Will not be held when school is dismissed early **or canceled** due to inclement weather.
3. May be held on weekends or over holiday periods (examples may include basketball practice over winter break or practice on Sunday).
4. Practice sessions are normally closed to spectators and there is a very sound reason for this. These sessions are the equivalent to a teacher's classroom and there is real, quality instruction taking place. Interruptions and interference to a student-athlete's concentration and focus in practice cannot be allowed. Parents waiting to pick up athletes after practice should wait in the Commons area, **or in their vehicle outside the school.**
5. Spectators at games, however, are very much encouraged. Positive and nurturing support of teams and student-athletes can be very helpful to performance in athletic contests. **Spectators/Fans are expected to abide by the Fan Code of Conduct attached to this handbook, and are subject to the outlined disciplinary measures for violations of the Fan Code of Conduct.**

Dress Code for Home/Away Contests

Athletes are expected to adhere to the following dress code for athletic/activity contests:

1. Athletes should wear "dress clothes" and should refrain from wearing shorts, tee-shirts, and jeans with rips/tears.
2. All clothing should adhere to the school student dress code policy. Clothing promoting alcohol/nicotine/drugs/drug use/inappropriate content will not be tolerated.
3. Athletes may wear team travel gear (warm-up jackets/pants, etc) if provided as part of the uniform for the sport in which they are participating. If travel gear is provided and expected, **ALL** competing athletes are expected to wear the prescribed clothing.

Uniforms and Equipment

Students must turn in all equipment and uniforms before competing in the next interscholastic season. Coaches may make exceptions to this for picture purposes. **Transferring/Graduating athletes must return all equipment/uniforms to the coach/school before their school checkout will be considered complete.**

Quitting An Activity

If a student-athlete makes the decision to remove themselves from the roster/team for an activity, but has participated for one or more weeks, he/she MUST follow the listed procedure in order to be eligible to participate in further athletic activities.

1. Meet with the coach of the sport which you would like to drop and obtain a Player Release Form with his/her signature.
2. Return all equipment that you were issued or pay replacement cost.
3. Meet with the Athletic Director, note the reason you wish to no longer participate, and obtain his signature on the Player Release Form.
4. Obtain the signature of a parent or guardian.
5. Sign the Player Release Form and return it to the Athletic Director.
- 6.

School Discipline

A student-athlete must display good citizenship in and out of the classroom. Student-athletes must conform to all general school rules and regulations, rules established by the coach/sponsor for the activity in which he/she is participating, and the laws of the community.

A student who has been assigned in-school suspension (ISS) for more than one day or out-of-school suspension (OSS) shall not participate in practice or competition on the date(s) of the suspension.

Transportation

The Pattonsburg R-II School District is responsible for providing transportation to and from extracurricular activities. Students are expected to ride the school-provided transportation with their respective teams to all competitions unless prior arrangements are made with the coach/sponsor. Students are not allowed to drive themselves to or from school sponsored competitions.

Likewise, a student may not ride with anyone under the age of 21 to or from a school sponsored competition. A student may ride home from a competition with a parent/guardian or immediate family member. The individual providing the transportation must sign the student out with the coach/sponsor or administrator in charge. If a student chooses to ride with someone other than a parent/guardian or an immediate family member, the student's parent/guardian must give permission for the student to do so. The adult responsible for providing the transportation must sign the student out with the coach/sponsor or administrator in charge.

Only members of the team, managers, cheerleaders, and school officials may ride the bus to and from competitions. Any exceptions to this rule must be pre-approved by the building administrator.

General Guidelines

It is impossible to cover every possible situation that may occur, and in cases where a specific incident is not covered in the items below, the administration of the Pattonsburg R-II School District reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary actions that are deemed necessary. The offenses mentioned below may be reported by school administration, the coaching staff, or law enforcement officials. Official charges by law enforcement officers do not have to be filed in order for discipline to be administered. These guidelines will be enforced during the school year, and also during any team activities that take place during the summer break. If a student falls under any of these circumstances and is not participating in an activity at the time, the penalty will be assessed during the next season of athletic participation.

1. Tobacco/ Electronic Cigarettes/ Nicotine Products- A student-athlete may not use or possess tobacco of any kind, electronic cigarettes, or other nicotine products. The consequences set forth below will be assessed against participants who (1) use or possess tobacco, electronic cigarettes, or nicotine products on school property; (2) use or possess tobacco, electronic cigarettes, or nicotine products while participating or attending a school sponsored activity, whether on or away from school property; or (3) are observed by school officials using or possessing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, or nicotine products, whether on or away from school property.

- **First Offense:** Two calendar weeks (14 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Five calendar weeks (35 days) suspension from participating in any of the extracurricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

2. Alcohol/Drugs: A student athlete may not use, possess, or distribute drugs, look-alike drugs, alcoholic beverages, look-alike alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, look-alike controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, or items represented to be such. A student athlete will be in violation of this policy if the use, possession, or distribution (1) occurs on school property; (2) is reported and confirmed by a law enforcement agency; or (3) is observed by a school administrator or member of the coaching staff (whether on or away from school property).

- **First Offense:** Three calendar weeks (21 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Remainder of the season in which the offense occurred and no less than five calendar weeks (35 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

3. Theft- A student-athlete will be in violation of this rule if (1) the theft is reported or confirmed by a law enforcement agency or school personnel; or (2) the theft occurs on school property or at a school sponsored activity.

- **First Offense:** Two calendar weeks (14 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Five calendar weeks (35 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

4. Hazing- Student hazing is inconsistent with the educational goals of the Pattonsburg R-II School District and poses a significant risk to the physical and mental welfare of district students. Hazing of students, on or off district property, at any time of the year is strictly prohibited. For the purpose of this rule, hazing is defined as the willful conduct directed at another student, whether occurring on or off school property, for the purposes of initiation of admission to any school-related activity or athletic team. Prohibited

conduct includes, but is not limited to, exposure or contact of genitals, buttocks, or breasts (female students), directly through contact with undergarments; threats of physical harm; and infliction of physical or mental harm or humiliation. If the hazing incident takes place during the summer break, the consequences will be assessed during the first sports season in which the offender participates.

- **First Offense:** Three calendar weeks (21 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Five calendar weeks (35 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

5. Minor Hazing – Consists of continual verbal harassment of one or more students.

- **First Offense:** One calendar week (7 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Three calendar weeks (21 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

6. Bullying/Harassing – This may be verbal or physical, and may include social media or online posts that are negative and derogatory. This may include, but is not limited to negative comments directed towards teammates, coaches, opposing players, coaches, teams, fans, administration, communities, and officials.

- **First Offense:** One calendar week (7 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Second Offense:** Three calendar weeks (21 days) suspension from participating in any of the extra-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA. The suspension shall be imposed during the interscholastic season, which shall begin with the first contest and end with the final contest of the season. At the discretion of the administration, the student may continue to practice unless serving ISS or OSS. This penalty may transfer to the following sports season in the event the offense occurs at or near the end of the previous sports season.
- **Third Offense:** Loss of all practice and competitive privileges for one calendar year (365 days). This period may extend into the next school year.

NOTE: COMPETITIVE WEEKS CARRY OVER FROM SEASON TO SEASON WHEN ASSESSING DISCIPLINE

Cell Phones

Cell phone use is not permitted in rest rooms, locker rooms, or dressing facilities. Penalties for violating this rule shall follow those set by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (typically disqualification from activity/contest), Pattonsburg R-2 Schools, and any applicable state or federal law.

Cheerleading

Sideline Cheerleading auditions will be held in the Spring of the preceding school year. A maximum of ten cheerleaders may be selected. Auditions will be judged by individuals from outside of the school and if possible, not from Pattonsburg or the Pattonsburg R-2 School District. Judges may not be relatives of cheer coaches or those auditioning for sideline cheer. Judges' scoring sheets shall be given to the Athletic Director and/or Principal for safekeeping, and when possible, the scoring calculations shall be performed by a non-coach administrator.

Parent/Athlete/Coach Communication Guide

Any questions and/or concerns that an athlete, parent, or guardian has concerning an athletic program should first be addressed to his/her coach or sponsor. It is preferred that the athlete first address the issue with the coach if the issue is performance related.

What the Athlete/Parents Should Expect

Communication parents should expect from a coach:

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations the coach has for your child
3. Location and times for practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
5. When an injury to your child takes place
6. Information concerning disciplinary action that results in your child being denied participation in practice or a contest

Typical concerns of parents that are appropriate to discuss with a coach include:

1. An unhealthy mental or physical strain you detect in your child at home (especially when it affects his/her academic performance)
2. Any drastic changes you detect in your child's behavior.

What Pattonsburg R-2 Staff and Coaches Should Expect

It is inappropriate to discuss with a coach:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy or play calling
3. Other student athletes

Coaches often need parents to tell them:

1. Any specific health concerns about your child expressed directly and informally to the head coach at a mutually convenient time
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
3. Your commitment to the program, and how you plan to make contributions to the program's success. For example one way is to be sure your child gets enough rest and proper nutrition at home.

If you have a concern with a coach, set up an appointment with the coach. Communication between parents and the coaching staff is encouraged. It is important that both have a clear understanding of the other's position. **Confronting the coach before or after a practice or contest is NOT acceptable. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. These types of meetings do not promote resolution.**

Athlete/Spectator Code of Conduct Agreement

Pattonsburg R-2 School, in association with the Missouri State High School Activities Association, promotes interscholastic events and sportsmanship. Sportsmanship is an essential part of any athletic competition and is expected from athletes, coaches, officials, and fans. As a spectator/fan (student or adult) of Pattonsburg R-2 Schools, we expect you to be an example of positive encouragement while supporting our athletes, coaches, and game officials. Our behavior should be positive, respectful, and encouraging of the athletes, coaches, officials, and the game itself.

Pattonsburg R-2 encourages:

- Enthusiastic support of your team
- Good sportsmanship
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Commitment to safety
- Welcoming attitude to all fans and visitors

Unacceptable behaviors:

- Disruptive or unruly behavior
- Foul or abusive language/behavior or obscene gestures
- Rudeness to Officials, fellow fans, or Pattonsburg R-2 personnel
- Spectators are not allowed on playing surfaces at any time
- Use of alcohol or tobacco at Pattonsburg R-2 athletic events and activities

Spectators and athletes who display unacceptable behaviors will be subjected to sanctions, including refusal of admittance, removal, and arrest, as outlined in the Athletic and Student Handbooks, and school website where applicable.

I understand, and agree to abide by the code of conduct for Pattonsburg R-2 athletics and activities, and acknowledge that I am subject to the outlined disciplinary measures, if I am found to be in violation of Pattonsburg R-2's codes of conduct/sportsmanship policies.

Student Participant: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Assumption of Risk

In spite of protective equipment, and the supervision and sound instruction by our coaches, there are some risks associated when someone participates in athletics. Injuries in some of our activities can and do occur. In extremely rare cases, death could also result. All student-athletes and parents need to be aware and understand this possibility. At Pattonsburg High School, we will do all that we can to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our student-athletes.

RISK MANAGEMENT WARNING STATEMENT

I, as the athlete and/or the parent and guardian, completely understand that there are dangers and possible injuries that could take place during athletic events, practices and/or games. I understand that even playing within and under a Missouri State High School Activities Association sport or activity, **there is a presumed great risk of sickness and or injury, which includes, but is not limited** to the following; possible death and paralysis of any limb of the body in regards to the type of sport or even activity that is partaken in.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand that all things included in the athletic program that I participate in could harm me or another individual. I will follow the rules of play that are put forth from the Missouri High School Activities Association, abide by the guidelines that are set forth for safety and personnel by the school district, obey and take care of any equipment that is checked out to me from the coaching staff, **and understand and acknowledge** that I may not be excluded from injury. I understand that I should follow and abide by the rules and boundaries set forth by the coaching staff and or any athletic trainers that I come into contact with throughout the day during practice or games.

I, as the athlete, will make sure that I follow the proper techniques of the sport that I participate in to keep myself and others free from concussions and all illnesses. I will make sure to get into contact with my athletic trainer and or coach with any symptoms that may arise due to a sport injury that has progressed further after any practice or contest. I also will contact a physician in any instance that my condition worsens.

I and my legal parent or guardian do not hold the school district, any personnel, or coaching staff members liable for any injuries that take place during pre-season conditioning, practices, or games.

I understand that all information has been given to me and I am aware of the dangers of my son or daughter playing and partaking in extra-curricular activities and events. Therefore I give complete consent for my student-athlete to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pattonsburg R-II Interscholastic Activities Agreement
2025-2026

We have read and understand the Pattonsburg R-II Athletic Handbook and the guidelines found within it for participation in interscholastic activities.

Student Participant: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

This permission form, along with an updated physical and proof of insurance form, must be returned before a student is allowed to practice. Student-athletes are also required to sign and return any expectation forms presented by individual coaches before participating in the respective sport.