 Chandler Woods
 Charter Academy

2017-18



**Athletic Programs**

National Heritage Academies believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the educational development of the student while recognizing that athletic programs are secondary to academic programs. The goal of these programs is to realize the value of participation without over-emphasizing the importance of winning. The purpose is to develop and improve character traits among the program’s participants. Our programs should expand the experiences available to middle school students while promoting the following ideals:

* Participation in athletic programs is a privilege, not a right.
* Provide students with several options to participate in athletic programs.
* To support and practice the NHA moral virtues.
* To improve fundamental skills and gain a knowledge and appreciation for the game.
* To develop good sportsmanship.

**Athletic Calendar**

A typical athletic calendar for NHA is:

 **Fall** **Winter Spring**

 • Girls Basketball • Boys Basketball • Cross Country (Coed)

• Boys Soccer • Girls Volleyball • Girls Soccer

 • Boys Bowling

**Student Eligibility**

Students participating on sports teams should meet the following eligibility requirements. Each requirement applies to each subject area and will be assessed on a weekly basis. The assessments will start one week before the season and continue every week throughout the season. Failure to meet the requirements will result in the student being ineligible to participate in games. If at the next assessment the student fulfills all the requirements, his/her eligibility will be reinstated.

**Academic Eligibility**

* The student’s grades should not be lower than a C- in any subject.
* Any student who has an IEP will have his/her academic performance and the resulting eligibility examined on a case-by-case basis. This assessment should be done with the resource room professional, the athletic director, and the teacher from the class in question.
* Academic eligibility will be checked by the athletic director each Monday of the season. If a student has a D or an F, they will have until Friday of that week to get the grade to an acceptable level with no penalty. If they cannot raise the grade by Friday, they will be ineligible for the following week’s competitions.
	+ If a player is ineligible for a competition, they are still expected to attend but cannot dress in uniform. If they skip the competition, they will sit for an additional one.
* If a player is ineligible for two weeks out of the season, they may be at risk of being removed from the team.

**Attendance Eligibility**

**AT SCHOOL**

• The student should be in attendance at school to be eligible to play on that day.

• During the season, any student charged with an **unexcused absence** will be ineligible for the next game.

• If a student athlete is at school all day they should also be at practice. Skipping practice will result in a cut in playing time.

* First time = miss ½ of the next game.
* Second time = miss all of the next game.
* If a student has a third unexcused absence from practice there will be a meeting with Athletic Director, parent(s), player, and coach before that student is eligible to play another game.

**AT PRACTICE**

* Athletes are **required** to give their coach prior notice if they will be missing practice for any reason.
	+ If a student misses school because of sickness, etc. an email to the coach is appreciated.
* If an athlete misses a practice, they will be at risk of missing part or all of the next contest.

**Conduct Eligibility**

* Student-Athletes should maintain an attitude that is acceptable to all staff members.
	+ Steps to be taken are as follows:
		- The teacher will address the behavior.
		- The teacher will contact the parent(s)
		- The teacher will contact the athletic director and the student will be placed on warning.
		- The athletic director will notify the coach, the athlete, and parent(s).
		- A second warning means missing one week of competition.
		- A third warning is dismissal from the team.
* Coaches are encouraged to remove students from competition for unsportsmanlike conduct.
* If a student is ineligible, or not competing for any reason, he/she may **not** dress for the game. The student is required to practice and attend the game. The player should wear school clothes and sit on the end of the bench to support their teammates.
* Students are not eligible when on suspension.
* The student should not have any violations of the school’s Student Code Of Conduct as determined by an administrator.

**Age Eligibility**

* If a student turns 15 years old **before** Sept. 1st, they are ineligible to compete.
* NHA Sports are open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students only. No Elementary grades may participate.

**General Guidelines for Students**

**Student Guidelines**

* Players may not have obligation to a particular sport more than a total of **five (5)** days per week.
* NHA has an “everyone plays” policy for athletes. That means that each player who is eligible and in uniform must play during each game. It is recommended to allow players to have “sufficient” playing time.
* Athletes will be ejected from the game for using profanity.
* Athletes may not wear jewelry during athletic contests. Religious and medical-alert medals are not considered jewelry. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical-alert medal must be taped and may be visible.
* Uniforms must be worn as the manufacturer intended. The waistband of the shorts must be around the waist of the athlete. Jerseys must be tucked in at the start of the contest.
* All players will shake hands with the other team after the game.

**Cancellation Procedures**

* If school is cancelled, all athletic contests are cancelled.
* The school hosting the game is responsible to cancel the game for any reason (no electricity, severe weather, etc.).
* Severe weather policy (tornado watch/warning or snow day):
	+ Tornado watch or warning – all contests are cancelled.
	+ Thunderstorm / snow storm watch or warning – AD will determine cancellation.
* Athletic Director will contact the school they are competing against by 2:00 pm on the day of the contest if the contest is cancelled.
* Athletic Directors are required to reschedule any cancelled games as soon as possible after the cancellation date.

**Tournaments**

The West MI schools invite the top eight teams to participate in the end of season tournaments.

* West MI Tournaments are seeded 1-8 based on league record.
* These tournaments are for A-teams only.
* To be eligible for tournament play, a player must have competed in at lease one contest on the A-team.
* **Playing time requirements are no longer in effect during the playoffs.**

**No Cut Policy**

The general philosophy for NHA athletics is to encourage all interested students to participate. Thus, we encourage a no-cut policy.

Obviously, time, space, facilities, equipment, personal preference, and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport. However, when developing policy in this regard, please strive to maximize the opportunities for students without diluting the quality of the programs.

**Selecting Teams:**

Choosing the members of the athletic squads is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads. Lower level coaches shall take into consideration the policies established by the head coach in that particular program when selecting final team rosters.

Prior to try-outs, the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:

• Extent of try-out period

• Criteria to be used to select the team

• Number to be selected for each team

• Practice commitment for the team

• Game commitments

**Disciplinary Action**

Any student whose conduct is determined to be a discredit to him/herself, the team or the school during their middle school career shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the coach, athletic director, and/or principal. **Being a participant in NHA’s athletic program is a privilege and not a right. Any participant who does not treat it as such will lose his/her privilege to engage in it.**

All members of athletic teams are bound by the following training rules (as they apply to substance use or possession) at all times throughout the entire current school year plus any school sponsored event.

**Suspension**

If a student is on suspension, they are not allowed to practice, including tryouts.

Temporary suspension of participants may be made by the athletic director and/or principal. Suspension from a team results in nonparticipation in games/practice during the entire period of the suspension.

Athletic training rules forbid the use, possession or distribution of tobacco (in any form), alcohol, drugs, narcotics, or any controlled substance or any item represented to be a controlled substance by any athlete who represents this NHA academy.

* The first offense will result in a suspension for the remainder of the current athletic season.
* Second offense will result in a suspension from all athletics for twelve months.

**Removal from Participation**

A student athlete may be removed from his/her team for the following reasons:

* Violations of the school’s Student Code of Conduct
* Violations of school, athletic, or team policies
* Personal misconduct that involves police or court action during the sport season either before, during, or after hours
* Verbal or physical attack upon any individual
* Acts of poor sportsmanship
* Continuous weekly academic ineligibility
* Refusing to participate in athletic practices or contests

Student athletes will be given the opportunity for a hearing with the appropriate school administrator if the student or his/her parent/guardian indicates the desire for one. A hearing shall be held to allow the student and his/her parent/guardian to contest the facts or to contest the appropriateness of the sanction imposed by a disciplinary authority. The suspension will be in effect until the appeal process has been resolved.

**Steps** **for Review**

* The student athlete should have met with the coach involved to try to solve the problem.
* The student athlete may request a review by the athletic director who will arrange a meeting with the coach, the student athlete, and the parents. This meeting shall take place within five school days of the request for the review.
* If the decision resulting from the meeting with the coach, parents, and athletic director is unsatisfactory to the parents, they may appeal to the principal.

**Additional for Chandler Woods:**

**Team formation:**

 **Basketball:**

* The A team will be comprised of 10-12 players based on coaches recommendation.
* The B team will include ALL other participants.
	+ If there are enough players at the beginning of the season, there may be two B teams.
	+ Each game there will be a maximum of 15 players dressed and playing. The rest will be expected to attend and support their teammates.
* *\*All athletes will be given the opportunity to play during the season.*

 **Soccer:**

* All players who try out will be included on the team.
	+ If there are enough players at the beginning of the season, there may be a B team.
* Each game there will be a minimum of 18 players dressed and playing.
	+ The rest will be expected to attend and support their teammates.
	+ *\*All athletes will be given the opportunity to play during the season.*
* Because of team size, 6th graders might not get as much playing time, but they get to practice and develop their skills for the following year.

 **Volleyball:**

* The A team will be comprised of 10-12 players based on coaches recommendation.
* The B team will include ALL other participants.
	+ If there are enough players at the beginning of the season, there may be a C team as well.
	+ Each game there will be a maximum of 15 players dressed and playing. The rest will be expected to attend and support their teammates.
* *\*All athletes will be given the opportunity to play during the season.*
* The minimum length of the inseam for volleyball shorts will be 3 inches.

 **Cross Country:**

* All participants will be included in competitions.
* Regional and State competitors are at coaches recommendation.

***\*Athletes must remain eligible.***