

Athletic Handbook

A Guide for Athletes & Parents



**Medford High School
Medford, Massachusetts 02155
Telephone: (781) 393-2380**

Department of Interscholastic Athletics

Athletic Handbook

Introduction

Welcome to the Medford High School athletic program. The material presented in this booklet has been compiled to inform you of the policies and regulations that govern interscholastic athletics at Medford High School.

Student participation in interscholastic competition is a vital part of the total educational experience, and should be used as a means for developing positive attitudes and human relations, as well as knowledge and skills.

Please familiarize yourself with the contents and refer to this booklet when questions or concerns about your athletic experience at school arise. If you have any questions or concerns that are not answered within this booklet, feel free to call the Athletic Director's office. Thank you.

*Robert Maloney
Athletic Director*

Medford School Committee

Mayor Michael J. McGlynn, Chair
Robert Emmett Skerry, Jr., Vice Chair
William J. Brady, Secretary
Lena M. DiGiantommaso
Alfred P. Pompeo
Paulette Van der Kloot
Ann Marie Cugno

Administration

Roy E. Belson, Superintendent of Schools
Beverly G. Nelson, Assistant Superintendent
Arthur R. Swanson, Assistant Superintendent
Paul H. Krueger, Headmaster, MHS
William C. Mahoney, Director, MVTHS
Robert L. Maloney, Athletic Director

Medford High School Mission Statement

At Medford High School, caring educators serve as role models and encourage and assist all students to reach their potential as learners.

To fulfill that mission, the school creates a climate in which parents, teachers, administrators, and staff not only set high expectations for students, but also offer them considerable motivation and support. Medford High School is a community of lifelong learners who respect diversity and are actively involved in the life of the school, which offers physical safety and emotional security. As a result, graduates of Medford High School become responsible citizens and contributors to their community, their nation, and a global society.

Mission Statement for Athletics

The athletic program at Medford High School is an integral part of one's total educational experience. Athletics offer students the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities that can teach important life skills. The program is committed to the physical, emotional, social and mental development of all who participate.

Participation in athletics is a privilege and all athletes are expected to exhibit the highest level of conduct in all areas. Student-athletes represent his/her team, Medford High School and the City of Medford. It is expected that all who participate show respect for everyone they come in contact with. Facilities and school-issued equipment must also be taken care of.

Athletics at Medford High School are open to all students who meet and maintain the standards of academic eligibility as set forth in the student handbook, meet basic physical health qualification, and are good citizens in the Medford High School Community.

Athletic Program Objectives

- To provide opportunities for physical, mental and emotional growth.
- To develop confidence and self-esteem
- To develop and improve time management skills
- To develop and understand the concepts of individual and team play.
- To develop a sense of commitment, loyalty, cooperation and fairness.
- To learn that good sportsmanship means winning and losing with grace and dignity.
- To learn to make decisions under pressure.
- To foster pride in the school community and the City of Medford
- To proudly represent Medford High School and The Greater Boston League.
- To maintain a high level of enthusiasm throughout each sports season.

Medford High School Athletic Program

Fall Season - Begins the Monday before Labor Day (football allowed 3 extra conditioning days)

Football	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Boys Soccer	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Girls Soccer	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Boys Cross Country	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Cross Country	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Golf (Co-ed)	-	Varsity
Cheerleading	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Volleyball	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity

Winter Season - Begins the Monday after Thanksgiving

Boys Basketball	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Girls Basketball	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Boys Ice Hockey	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Ice Hockey	-	Varsity (1 st Year – Pilot Program)
Gymnastics	-	Varsity
Swimming (Co-ed)	-	Varsity
Boys Indoor Track	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Indoor Track	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity

Spring Season - Begins the third Monday in March

Baseball	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Softball	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity, Freshman
Boys Lacrosse	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Lacrosse	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Tennis	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Tennis	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Boys Outdoor Track	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity
Girls Outdoor Track	-	Varsity, Junior Varsity

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) is the governing body of high school athletics within the state of Massachusetts. The Board of Directors is made up of principals from various districts throughout the state. The Board of Directors and its various sub-committees establish policy for all member schools.

Medford High School is a member of the MIAA and is therefore governed by Association rules and regulations. The Medford School Committee sets additional policies, rules and regulations. Under MIAA guidelines, local communities are allowed to set their own policies as long as they are more restrictive than those stipulated by the MIAA. The MIAA organizes and establishes the guidelines for all post-season tournaments. All schools throughout the Commonwealth are responsible to govern themselves under the rules set forth in the MIAA *Blue Book*.

The MIAA does not sponsor or sanction a sub-varsity tournament competition.

The Greater Boston League

Medford High Schools is proud to be a member of the nine schools Greater Boston League. The league is governed by the MIAA and its own league constitution. The league sets most games played by Medford High School, at all levels of competition. Some non-league games against schools from surrounding communities are also added to fill up schedules. Teams such as girls' and boys' lacrosse compete in other leagues, because the majority of schools in the Greater Boston League do not sponsor these specific sports. The Greater Boston League is made up of the following schools:

Arlington
Cambridge
Waltham
Malden
Medford

Somerville
Everett

Administrative Chain of Command

1. **Medford School Committee:** The governing body for Medford High School. It sets all policy within the school district relative to athletics.
2. **Superintendent of Schools:** Administers school policy established by the school committee. He is responsible for the actual establishment of athletic policy.
3. **Headmaster:** The official representative of the school, and is directly responsible for the total conduct of all athletic activities. The headmaster is the official representative in matters dealing with the MIAA and the Greater Boston League. He or she ensures that all MIAA guidelines and policies are followed. The headmaster is responsible for any action taken by the school.
4. **Athletic Director:** The athletic director is directly responsible to the headmaster. They are responsible for the supervision and administration of the entire interscholastic athletic program. The athletic director provides the leadership necessary for the daily operation of the athletic department. The athletic director is responsible for carrying out and enforcing all Medford High School, Greater Boston League, and MIAA rules and guidelines. They are responsible for the direct supervision and evaluation of all coaches.
5. **Head Coach:** The head coach is responsible to the athletic director, and he or she is responsible for the total operation of their program.
6. **Assistant Coach:** The assistant coach is directly responsible to the head coach.

Communication and Conflict Resolution

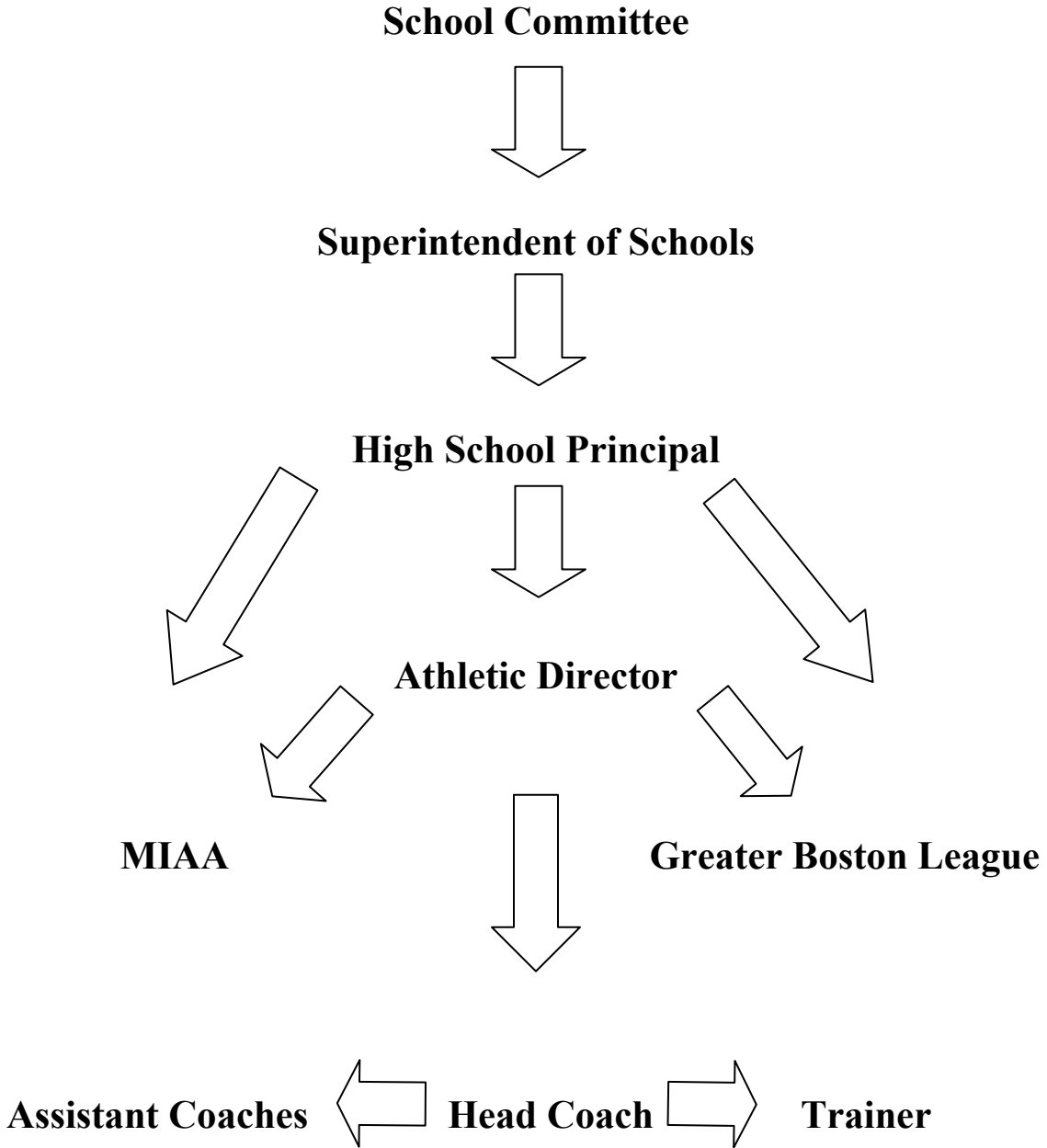
In order for our teams to be afforded the opportunity to achieve success at all levels, the relationship between student-athletes and their coaches must be fostered in such a way as to create an environment of trust and confidence. A key element in the maturation process of young adults is their ability to work within a team environment and deal with issues related to team play. With this in mind, it is critical that the following chain of communication be followed when dealing with any issues that arise.

- **Student-athletes should first speak directly with their coach.**
In almost every instance, the situation should be resolved at this level.
If this does not result in a resolution then
- **The student-athlete's parents may contact the head coach directly*.**
If this does not result in a resolution then
- **The student-athlete's parents may request a meeting with the head coach and or assistant coaches, and the Director of Athletics.**
If this does not result in a resolution then
- **The student-athlete or his/her parent/guardian may contact the Principal**

*In order for the discussion between student or parent and coach to be productive the following times to approach a coach should be avoided:

- Either prior to or immediately following a game.
- During a practice session.
- During a time when other teammates are present.
- A time when it is apparent that there will not be sufficient time to allow for a complete discussion.

Administrative Flowchart



Playing Time

There are many benefits to be gained by participation in athletics at the high school level. Student-Athletes learn, among other things, the importance of hard work, discipline, goal setting, selflessness, commitment, accountability, sportsmanship, confidence, and leadership. There are many different ways to define success as it relates to a team sport; and individual playing time should not be one of them. If an athlete has a question about the amount of playing time he/she is getting, he/she should discuss it with the head coach at a proper time and in a proper environment. Every student-athlete should keep in mind that they are a part of a team and everyone's role in a team sport is important regardless of how much someone plays in any particular game. Being a member of a team at Medford High School does not guarantee a certain amount of playing time but there are some guidelines:

A. Freshmen and Junior Varsity Teams:

This is the developmental level where athletes learn individual and team skills and strategies to prepare them for varsity competition. The coaching staff will play all team members for as much time as is practical. There are many factors that govern playing time. Some of the most important are: attendance at practice, effort, and attitude, commitment and athletic skill.

B. Varsity Teams:

This level of competition has the same factors and guidelines as the sub-varsity teams. However, there is one additional major factor. The varsity teams compete against opponents at the highest possible level. There is a greater emphasis on winning. To reach this goal, the most competitive, skilled team members, as it relates to the each individual teams philosophy, will get the most playing time. There are many ways to help a team be successful and it's each team member's responsibility to find a way to help the team reach its potential. There are many decisions made by the coaching staff during the course of a season. These include which athletes should be starters, who should play what position, and how long each athlete should play. These decisions are made only by the coaching staff and are approached with the best interest of the team as the top priority.

Team Captains

It is a coach's decision how team captains are chosen. They may be elected by the team or appointed by the coach prior to the first regularly scheduled event. Captains may also be appointed on a game-by-game basis.

Developing and demonstrating positive leadership skills should be the goal of all student-athletes's and coaches. It is expected that team captains are exemplary in that area. Captains are expected to assist the coaching staff by promoting team rules and communicating with the coaches of problems that could affect the team as they arise.

Captains of a team may be relieved of their position for violating team, athletic department, school or MIAA rules.

Student/Family Vacations

Medford High School has no control over varsity athletic events being scheduled during regularly scheduled school vacations. These events are controlled by the dates of the MIAA State Tournaments and games per week allowed by MIAA rules.

An athlete playing on the VARSITY level must make a commitment to the team. Games that are lost because of the absence of players can have severe negative consequences, which include the loss of a League Championship or the failure of the team qualifying for a State Championship.

Daily Commitment

Athletes should plan to make a daily commitment of two to three hours, five or six days a week. At the sub-varsity level, some teams might not practice or play on weekends. The preparation times before and after practice and games bring the usual total time to three hours. It is important that a coach be notified if an athlete is not going to be present at a practice or game. All coaches expect their athletes to be present at all team related activities, including those during the December, February and April vacation periods. A coach may suspend an athlete from practice or games for unexcused absences. All athletes are excused from team activities for illness, injury, academic obligations, family emergencies or religious reasons. Prior notification is expected when possible.

Tryouts

There are some teams that athletes must try out for and risk being cut. During the tryout period, the coach will provide an explanation of his/her expectations. It is then the athlete's responsibility to demonstrate to the coach that he/she can meet them. Athletes cut from one team are encouraged to try out for another team if there is space on that team. Students who are cut will be informed as to the reason for being cut.

The Athletic Trainer and Training Room

Because of the nature of athletics, physical problems do arise; problems ranging from minor bump and bruise to major injuries. The athletic training room serves to help athletes receive the best possible care. Medford High School is fortunate to have a highly qualified and skilled athletic trainer as a member of the athletic staff.

On school days, the athletic training room will open after school until the conclusion of the last practice session or home game. During weekends, holidays and school vacations, the athletic trainer will be on duty only for games, practices or scrimmages.

At certain times of day and during different seasons the training room gets crowded, and the trainer is extremely busy. During these times, only athletes who need treatment or taping should be present. Training services will be granted on a first come, first served basis on practice days. On game days, athletes will be treated in an order that will allow bus or game commitments to be met.

In the event of an injury at a home game, the athletic trainer is in immediate care. At an away game, the host school's medical personnel are responsible if the Medford High School trainer is not present. All injuries, during practice or games should be communicated to the trainer at the first possible chance.

After an injury, a student may not return to competition without clearance by the athletic trainer. In some instances, this may also include written documentation from a doctor.

Nutritional Needs of Athletes

It is essential that all athletes are educated regarding their nutritional needs and the consequences that may result from poor nutrition and eating disorders. Eating disorders are serious conditions, which compromise one's health and well being. If you are concerned about your eating behaviors, it is essential that you seek professional medical assistance. Talk to your coach, the athletic trainer, guidance counselor, school psychologist, clinical counselor, or nurse. They are there to help you. Take advantage of their expertise.

An athlete who practices or plays in a high school game during the day should spend the evening eating a nutritional dinner, studying to maintain good grades and going to bed at a reasonable hour. Proper diet and rest are essential for maintaining good academic and athletic performance.

Awards

The criterion for winning a varsity letter award is determined by the coach. The requirements will be explained at the beginning of the season by the head coach. An athlete will be awarded one varsity letter for each sport they participate in. The letter will be in the form of a senior letter plaque that is presented at the M-Club banquet each spring.

A senior athlete may be awarded a letter without fulfilling all the requirements if they have been loyal contributors to the program. The head coach will make this decision.

The Greater Boston League may also recognize Medford High School athletes with an All-Star certificate. The criteria for winning this award are determined by the league head coaches and athletic directors.

All major athletic awards and scholarships will be presented at the annual M-Club banquet.

Rules and Regulations

Medford High School athletes are bound by MIAA and Medford High School rules for interscholastic athletics. Although a coach may have additional rules for his or her athletes playing on their team, the following rules are to apply to all athletes participating in the athletic program at Medford High School.

Parental Permission

An athlete must submit a signed and completed parental permission form prior to the first practice session. This form must be completed for each season (fall, winter, spring) of participations, and is part of the sports User's Fee packet that is distributed by each coach at the start of the Season.

Physical Examination

Athletes must pass a physical examination each year before participation on any sport. This must be done prior to the first practice session. No athlete will be issued equipment or be able to participate in an organized practice or scheduled game until he/she has given the school nurse a current physical examination form from a physician and the school nurse processes the form and authorizes medical clearance. A limited amount of sports physicals will be scheduled, free of charge, in the health suite before each season. A student can choose to have a physical performed by his or her own physician or health care provider.

In order for an exam to be considered current and valid, it must be dated within one year of the date of any athletic involvement. It is strongly recommended that an annual examination be scheduled before June 15 to be prepared for August sports tryouts, or after September 1st to be prepared for Winter or Spring Sports programs.

Health Insurance

All athletes must be enrolled in an HMO or similar insurance plan. It is possible for a family to purchase an insurance policy through the school system at a nominal yearly fee. Applications for this coverage are given to each student on the first day of school. This policy covers the cost of all treatment for injuries sustained in all school sponsored activities. All athletes are covered under a supplemental insurance plan purchased by the City of Medford. It is the responsibility of the athlete and the families to file all claims under its own plan. Forms are available from the Athletic Trainer.

Eligibility

In order to compete in any sport, as any level, at Medford High School, each athlete must conform to the following rules, which are also found in the MHS student handbook:

1. A student must secure during the previous marking period a passing equivalent of four, yearlong major subjects. (I.e. Math, English, History, Foreign Language and Science. Only major courses that meet at least five days per six-day cycle will count).
2. All grades will be based on the previous quarter, and not on the cumulative grade. (Exception – Only fall eligibility will be based on a cumulative grade from the previous June.)
3. Academic eligibility of all students shall be considered official only on the date when report cards have been issued to all students.
4. Incomplete grades will not count toward eligibility.
5. Students who are 19 years old prior to September 1 are not eligible for high school athletics.
6. Students are eligible for 12 consecutive seasons beginning with their entry into the ninth grade.

Academic Responsibility

Medford High School athletes are expected and encouraged to maintain the highest level of academic achievement possible. Make up work and help sessions are expected to be complete as soon as possible. Athletes should notify their coach ahead of time, if they will be late for academic reasons.

User Fees

The Medford High School Committee voted to establish a user fee for all students participating in the Medford High School athletic programs and transportation. A fee of \$150.00 per sport (family maximum of \$450.00) should be paid to the coach before the first game.

No student will be denied the opportunity to play due to financial hardship. Any extenuating circumstances with regard to paying the user fee should be communicated to the Head Coach and Athletic Director.

School Discipline – Detention

An athlete with a school disciplinary obligation or detention is expected to fulfill the disciplinary obligation before reporting to practice or a game. Students cannot expect to have disciplinary action postponed for any athletic reason. An athlete may be removed from a team for excessive disciplinary problems. It is expected that athletes at Medford High School be model citizens both in and out of school.

School Attendance Requirements

Regular attendance at school is the cornerstone of a successful education. All athletes must be in school in order to participate in a practice or game. Excessive tardiness or dismissals without proper documentation will count as an unexcused absence. In certain situations, permission to participate may be given by the Headmaster and/or Athletic Director.

School Suspensions

Any athlete suspended from school may not practice or play on the days on which they are suspended.

Transportation

Medford High School provides transportation to all away games. All team members are required to travel to and from away events on transportation provided by the athletic department. Under no circumstances will students be allowed to transport themselves or ride with other students to or from away games. If cleared through the head coach, an athlete may return from a game with his/her parents.

Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner on all bus trips. Inappropriate behavior and unruly conduct will not be tolerated.

Equipment

All athletes are responsible for the equipment issued to them during the course of the season. Equipment must be returned at the end of each season. Athletes failing to turn in all issued equipment or returning equipment damaged through misuse is responsible for meeting the current replacement cost.

The Athletic Director for collection or payment for equipment not returned will notify parents. An athlete will be denied participation on any Medford High School athletic team until equipment has been returned or paid for.

Chemical Health Policy

The Medford High School Athletic Department is committed to providing for the general fitness, health and wellness of all students in the Medford Public Schools. The primary objective of this policy statement is to address the challenge of substance abuse by student-athletes. It seeks to furnish student-athletes with a well-defined code of conduct that is soundly based on the MIAA Rules and Regulations. The resultant policy strives to set a high yet realistic standard of conduct for Medford High School athletes, one that will be fair, firm and consistent in its application. It must be recognized that no policy

can or will be effective without the combined efforts and support of all members of the Medford High School Community (students, parents, coaches, faculty and administration).

During the season of practice or play, a student shall not, regardless of the quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, be in the presence of or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as “NA or near beer”. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student’s own use by his/her doctor.

If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury, academics, or otherwise, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.

First Violation

When the Headmaster confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contest totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. For the student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 25% of the season.

Second and Subsequent Violations

When the Headmaster confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contest totaling 60% of all interscholastic contest in that sport. For the student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season.

If the second or subsequent violations the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum of 40% of events. The director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year. If the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student’s next season of actual participation, which may affect the eligibility status of the student during the next academic year.

First Offense

# of Events/Season	# of Events/Penalty
1-7	1
8-11	2
12-15	3
16-19	4
20 or over	5

Second Offense

# of Events/Season	# of Events/Penalty
1-3	1
4	2
5-6	3
7-8	4
9	5
10-11	6
12-13	7
14	8
15-16	9
17-18	10
19	11
20 or over	12

Second Offense w/Dependency Program

# of Events/Season	# of Events/Penalty
1-4	1
5-7	2
8-9	3
10-12	4
13-14	5
15-17	6
18-19	7
20 or over	8

Off Season Violations

If a violation occurs in the off-season during the school year or summer vacation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) interscholastic events of the subsequent athletic season in which that student is a participant. This penalty shall carry over to the next academic year if the penalty period is not completed during the school year in which the violation occurred. The student will not be eligible to be a team captain and if already a team captain, he/she will lose their captaincy.

Please note, that acceptance of this policy as indicated by the student/athlete's, cheerleader's signature, is considered to apply to his/her entire athletic career at Medford

High School. However, the student athlete/cheerleader and parent/guardian must sign the policy acknowledgement prior to each season as a constant reminder of the terms of the substance abuse policy.

Hazing

Massachusetts General Laws

The term “hazing” as used in sections eighteen and nineteen of Chapter 269 of *Massachusetts General Laws*, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical, or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which subject the student to or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Section 17: Whoever is principle organized or participant in the crime of hazing as defined herein shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars \$1,000.00 or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 100 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 18: Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as identified in section seventeen and is a t the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

Section 19: Each secondary school and each public and private school or college shall issue to every group or organization under its authority or operating on or in conjunction with its campus or school and to every member, plebe, pledge or applicant for membership in such group or organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen. An officer of each group or organization and each individual receiving a copy of said sections seventeen and eighteen shall sign an acknowledgement stating that such group, organization, or individual has received a copy of said sections.

Each secondary school and each public or private school or college shall file, at least annually, a report with the regents of higher education and in the case of secondary schools, the board of education, certifying that such institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing. The Board of Regents and in the case of secondary schools, the Board of Education, shall promulgate regulation

governing the content and frequency of such reports and shall forthwith report to the Attorney General any such institutions which fail to make such report.

Any student found involved as an organizer or as a participant in a hazing action will be inundated, suspended from school for a period of ten (10) days and/or recommended for exclusion from Medford High School.

College and Career Guidance

One of the most important decisions facing high school athletes is what to do after high school. The Medford High School coaches can assist their players with this extremely important decision. Coaches can answer questions, contact schools and coaches, send videotapes, and write letters of recommendation. If an athlete has the desire to compete at the collegiate level, it is very important to be knowledgeable of the various eligibility regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the NCAA Clearinghouse. Copies of the latest regulations can be obtained at the athletic director's office or from the guidance department.

Taunting . . . MIAA Rule 54

Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players or spectators which are intended to bait, anger embarrass, ridicule or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin or background, and conduct that attack religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech family, special needs or personal matters.

Examples of taunting include but are not limited to: "trash talk", defined as verbal communication of a personal nature directed by a competitor to an opponent by ridiculing their skills, efforts, sexual orientation or lack of success, which is likely to provoke an altercation or physical response; and physical intimidation outside the spirit of the game, including "in your face" confrontation by one player to another and standing over or straddling a tackled or fallen player.

In all sports, officials are to consider taunting a flagrant un-sportsmanship like foul that disqualifies the offending bench personnel or contestant from that contest or day of competition. In addition, the offender shall be subject to existing MIAA expulsion rules. Game officials prior to the contest shall give a warning to both teams.

Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is the number one priority for all coaches and athletes representing the Medford High School athletic program. It is expected that all parties present at an event display the highest level of sportsmanship. Players, coaches and spectators should treat opponents, game officials and visiting spectators with respect.

All athletic events are conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the MIAA. Any form of taunting of officials or players will not be tolerated at any Medford High School athletic event. Likewise, profanity, objectionable cheers or gestures have no place at an athletic event, be it at Medford High School or at another venue.

The MIAA reserves the right to “warn, censure, place on probation or suspend up to one calendar year any player, coach, team, game or school official or school determined to be acting in a manner contrary to the standards of good sportsmanship.” Medford High School, in turn, reserves the right to impose the same penalties on spectators displaying poor sportsmanship at any athletic event, home or away. Sportsmanship is living, feeling and interacting with others on a daily basis with mutual respect.