

Student Athletics

The purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual player. Athletics are also an important part of school life in the district, and require as much careful planning and supervision as regular curricular subjects.

Overall Supervision and Direction

The RSU 40/MSAD 40 athletic program will be under direct authority of the Superintendent. The school principal is responsible for programs conducted by his/her staff.

The Athletic Director and coaches will be responsible for the safety and welfare of all players, whenever the player is under the general supervision of a coach.

Athletic Participation

Students who desire to participate on athletic teams will do so on a volunteer basis with the understanding that it is a privilege and not a right to be a member of a school team.

Students in RSU 40/MSAD 40 programs will be expected to display the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play. They will also be expected to show and encourage respect to opposing teams, fellow players, coaches, and sports officials. Finally, athletes are expected to encourage a winning spirit while not losing sight of the above ideals.

Students are afforded this privilege of representing themselves and their school as long as they are willing to accept the responsibility of adhering to each and every provision therein.

All students will conform to the requirements of eligibility set forth by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Maine Principal's Association and Board policies, procedures, and regulations. Participation in the RSU 40/MSAD 40 athletic program(s) will be determined by the school administration.

Injuries

The diagnosis of and prescription of treatment for injuries is strictly a medical problem and should, under no circumstances be considered a province of the coach. No students will be allowed to practice or compete if the coach questions that the student is not in adequate physical condition. For concussions, refer to policies JJIF and JJIF-E.

No student shall be allowed to practice or play in an athletic contest if the student is suffering from an injury. The coach's responsibility is to see that injured players are given prompt and competent medical attention, and that all details of a doctor's instructions concerning the student's functioning as a team member are carried out.

RSU 40/MSAD 40 does not allow student-athletes to return to practice or compete without a written note from a doctor saying that the student can return to action following the student's having received medical treatment.

RSU 40/MSAD 40 First Aid Equipment and Procedures

The RSU 40/MSAD 40 Board recognizes the need to address the issue of prevention and care of athletic injuries. The Superintendent, through the principal and athletic director, is directed to develop procedures and/or guidelines to ensure:

- Emergency medical procedures and equipment are specified for each sports season for each sport.
- Appropriate staff members and volunteer assistants are trained in the care and prevention of athletic injuries, as required by the MPA, which mandates all high school coaches to be certified in coaching principles, sports first aid and adult CPR/AED. Effective with fall sports in 2008, Middle School coaches must meet the same requirements as High School coaches.
- Protective equipment required in the various sports is specified in writing to coaches and participants.

Adopted: December 5, 1988

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