

# **Nodaway Valley Thunder**



**ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK**  
**2025-2026**

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## ACTIVITY PHILOSOPHY

The Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway School Districts believe that participating in state and district sponsored activities is a valuable experience for those who choose to partake of school offerings. Additionally, the district believes participation in activities is a **privilege** and **not a right** not only for participating students, but for coaches, administrators, and parents as well.

The interscholastic activities program is conducted at Nodaway-Holt Junior/Senior High School and West Nodaway Junior/Senior High School to further the development of students as competitors and spectators through friendly inter-school contests. The purpose of the activities program is to develop leadership, good sportsmanship, personality, new friendships and friendly rivalry with other schools in addition to providing experiences to those students who choose to participate.

These experiences will contribute to the development of good citizenship and sportsmanship by:

- 1) Developing self-discipline, leadership, and sportsmanship
- 2) Promoting the physical, mental, and emotional health of each student.

Extra-curricular activities should aid in student growth, in all related areas, as well as improve the academic pursuit of excellence.

## COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

The safety and well-being of the students, while participating in extracurricular activities, is a serious responsibility and will be made a priority.

The sponsors of each activity have the responsibility to train students in sportsmanship, in motivation, in self-discipline, in loyalty, in leadership, in extra effort, in the development of a positive attitude, and in individual self-esteem.

## PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

Team activities will be designed to teach young people how to work together to accomplish a positive and successful result.

The aims and objectives of the middle school and sub-varsity activities are different from the aims and objectives of the varsity activities.

In all middle school and sub-varsity activities, the emphasis should be on skill development and participation. As in all aspects of education, students do not progress at the same rate. Therefore, care must be taken that the varying skill levels of all students are considered. While it may be difficult for all members of the squad to participate equally in contests or practices, a student at this level should have the fullest opportunity to develop himself or herself as a person.

Varsity level activities are for those students who have demonstrated the most skill, best attitude, and have shown the most dedication. The objective of varsity level activities is to successfully compete in interscholastic competition.

## SPORTSMANSHIP

We believe good sportsmanship should be exemplified at all activities and contests. Opponents who enter our school should be treated as guests. The same goes for game officials. At all times, both participants and spectators should treat those around them with respect. Fair play, courtesy, generosity and self-control shall not be sacrificed in the desire to win.

## ACTIVITIES

The activities covered in this handbook will be only those that are governed by the **Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA)**. Activities, clubs, organizations and events not directly governed by MSHSAA will follow the guidelines set forth in the **Student/Parent Handbook**.

### Activities Include:

HS Baseball	JH/HS Cross Country	JH/HS Volleyball
JH/HS Basketball	JH/HS Football	JH Wrestling
JH/HS Cheerleading	JH/HS Track	

*Should the district add any activity governed by MSHSAA, that activity will automatically become a part of this handbook although it may not appear in name.*

### **MASCOT**

The Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway school districts have an athletic cooperative agreement in all sports. Combined Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway teams are known as the Nodaway Valley Thunder.

### **SCHOOL COLORS**

Thunder teams are represented by the colors Black and Kelly Green with a White accent.

### **CONFERENCE AFFILIATION**

Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway are members of the 275 Conference. The Conference includes:

Craig	Osborn
Fairfax	Rock Port
Dekalb	South Holt
Jefferson	South Nodaway
Mound City	Stewartsville
Nodaway-Holt	Tarkio
North Nodaway	Union Star
Northeast Nodaway	West Nodaway

### **ATHLETIC BANQUET**

Following each high school season, each head coach will schedule, and host, an athletic banquet for the participants in their respective sport. The banquet may, or may not, be hosted on either of the school district's campuses. Junior high coaches will not be required to host athletic banquets.

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

In order to maintain eligibility for activities, the Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway R-I Boards of Education have adopted the following policy.

1. Academic eligibility will be determined using MSHSAA State Standards. In the semester prior to participation, the students must pass **80%** of the maximum allowable classes in which a student can be enrolled in the semester. In the case of the Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway R-I, students must pass seven (7) classes during a semester in order to participate the next semester.
2. The students must be striving to make satisfactory progress toward graduation as determined by local school policies.
3. All MSHSAA guidelines concerning academic eligibility.
4. Students entering the seventh and ninth grade for the first time will be eligible by promotion. At the end of the first semester, all eligibility requirements are placed into effect. These requirements remain in uninterrupted effect until graduation, or the student fulfills his/her state athletic eligibility.

### Nodaway-Holt

Grade checks will be conducted on the first school day of every week, starting with the third week of each semester. Any student, grades 7-12, with an F letter grade after each grade check will be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular until the next grade check. This includes, but is not limited to, athletics, cheerleading, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, field trips, prom,

trap shooting, etc. This does not, however, include activities that are required for a grade in class; i.e. marching band, concert band, choir performances, etc. Ineligible students will not travel with the team, be in the dugout, on the bench, or on the sidelines.

If a student has a missing or poor quality assignment, a text message will be sent to the student's guardian as well as an email to both the student and the student's guardian, through GradeWatch. The due date of the assignment texted and emailed about is the new due date for the makeup and/or missing assignment. If the assignment is not turned in by the end of the class period in which it has been assigned for, on the new due date, students will receive a "0" on the assignment(s) unless prior arrangements have been made with their teacher who placed them on GradeWatch.

If a student completes a portion of an assignment and turns the assignment in at the end of the class period, the portion of the assignment completed will be graded and a score will be given.

Seminar may also be used to assign students who are on GradeWatch to a specific teacher or classroom to help them make-up missing assignments or provide intervention to students who are lacking in specific skills for a certain subject.

If a student's attendance falls below 90% they will be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular event until their attendance rises to a level that is at, or above, 90%. This includes, but is not limited to, athletics, cheerleading, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, field trips, prom, trap shooting, etc. This does not, however, include activities that are required for a grade in class; i.e. marching band, concert band, choir performances, etc. The principal can waive the 90% attendance requirement in extenuating circumstances where appropriate documentation was provided to the school.

#### West Nodaway

In order to represent West Nodaway in any interscholastic competition or activity, students must meet all eligibility requirements as established by the West Nodaway School District and MSHSAA.

- A. Grades will be submitted at the end of every two weeks or when administration sets the grade check.
  - 1. Grades will be submitted at the end of every two weeks or when administration sets the grade check (four times per quarter). Students may become ineligible after submission of the first grade check. Students will be notified of their ineligibility by administration by the end of the day following the grade check. Eligibility consequences will start the day the ineligible student is notified and run until the next grade check. A letter will be sent home to the parent detailing the situation and notifying them of their child's status.
  - 2. Any student with one "F" will be ineligible for a period of two weeks. Ineligible students will have those two weeks to raise their grades or will remain ineligible until the next two week grade check. To be in good standing and be eligible for extracurricular activities, a West Nodaway student must receive a passing grade in all academic classes, no failing marks. During this time, students will be allowed to practice, they may not suit up, play or perform in contests. They may not travel with the team, be in the dugout, on the bench, or on the sidelines, but must attend intervention during 8th hour.
  - 3. Tutoring is offered before and after school at the discretion of the teachers from 7:15-7:45 AM or 3:15-3:45 PM. Ineligible students will be required to attend intervention during 8th hour.
- B. The student becomes academically ineligible immediately after notification by an administrator.
- C. Eligibility does carry over from the end of one school year to the beginning of the next.
- D. Incomplete grades at grade checks will be assessed by the administration and coach.
- E. Students with IEPs will fall under the conditions of their individualized report.
- F. Any decision of the implementation of this policy is left to the discretion of the administration.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

As most of the activities are of a team or group nature, the value of traveling to and from activities together cannot be discounted. For that reason, student participants are expected to ride to activity trips on school provided transportation. Students who do not travel to activities in school provided transportation will not be allowed to participate in the

activity. The administration recognizes that at times, extenuating circumstances may occur. **In these cases, permission to use alternative transportation to the activity must be secured from administration.**

Students wishing to use alternative return transportation from the activity will be released to parents/guardians only. The parent/guardian must sign out the student before the student is released. Occasionally situations arise where parents require another adult to sign their children out from a game. The administration will consider these requests on a case by case basis.

In order to have your child signed out by a person who is not their parent/guardian or grandparent, verbal discussion must take place with the building principal at least 24 hours in advance of the event and an **Alternate Transportation Permission Slip** must be filled out and given to the office. The person with whom your child is being released to ride home must be 18 years of age, or older. Emergency situations will be handled on a case by case basis. All students must be signed out at the event before the student is released.

Students that fail to comply with this policy will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Suspension from the next contest
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Suspension from the next two contests
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Immediate removal from the team

### **PRACTICE TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation will be provided for students to Burlington Junction, Graham, Maitland, and Skidmore for all Thunder practices. Students are required to ride to and from practice in the transportation provided by the school districts. Students are not allowed to drive themselves to practices unless prior arrangements have been made with administration. For practices held in Skidmore, students will be allowed to drive only if their parents/guardians have signed the designated alternate transportation form. IF parents are going to pick their child up from practice, the High School Principal, Coach, and/or Athletic Director must be given advance notice and the child must be signed out.

### **STATE LEVEL COMPETITION**

Students, teams, or groups who qualify for state level competitions in any activity will have the following expenses paid for by the school; travel, lodging, and a daily meal allowance will be provided, if applicable. If the qualifying competitor is a team or group, the competitors will be defined as team members who will suit up for the activity, managers, and cheerleaders who perform.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT**

Students represent both school districts and both communities throughout each event, therefore they are expected to set a positive example for members of the community and the school districts.

- 1. Appropriate dress, grooming, and professional conduct are expected at all practices and events.
- 2. Attendance at all practices and events is expected by all participants.
- 3. Students are expected to maintain appropriate levels of conduct while attending other events, even as spectators.
- 4. Respect and cooperate with all coaches and administration.

### **CITIZENSHIP**

All students in the Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway school districts are expected to conduct themselves in such a way as to only bring credit upon the team, group, school, community, their family, and themselves. MSHSAA requires that student participants in activities be “credible citizens: (BY-law 212). Any student judged to not be a “Credible Citizen” may be declared ineligible for any period of time by school administration. Expectations are as follows:

- 1. Student athletes are to be on their best behavior at all times. Good behavior in the classroom is mandatory. If a student athlete receives an I.S.S. he or she is subject to the following punishment.

- (a) **All Offenses** – Matter will be discussed with Administration and coach. Adequate punishment will be determined on a per incident basis. Punishment could include missing contests.

These offenses take place during a specified sports season and do not carry over from season to season.

- 2. Any student receiving an O.S.S. during the sports season will be subject to the following punishments.
  - (a) **First Offense** – suspension for 10% of the games scheduled for that season, after returning to school. Administration may increase or decrease the number of games an athlete is suspended based on the circumstances of the O.S.S.
  - (b) **Second Offense** – suspension for 20% of the games scheduled for that season, after returning to school. Administration may increase or decrease the number of games an athlete is suspended based on the circumstances of the O.S.S.
- 3. Any athlete receiving a technical foul, or a penalty deemed an unsportsmanlike conduct, action, or some individual intentional penalty, will sit the remainder of the quarter/match in which the penalty occurred and an additional 4 quarters of action or the equivalent of one game depending on the sport. These consequences do not apply to penalties that occur as a result of some infraction of the game NOT considered a personal foul. (Technical fouls due to improper clothing, numbers wrong in the book, violation not unsportsmanlike). After a review of the facts, Administration reserves the right to reduce or lengthen the athlete's punishment. For each subsequent penalty during that sport's season, the player will set an additional game (i.e. 2 penalties = 2 games, 3 penalties = 3 games, etc.)
- 4. Students ejected from a sports contest will incur a penalty, at a minimum, to the MSHSAA Standards and shall at a minimum be prohibited from playing in the next interscholastic contest at the same level. Administration reserves the right to lengthen the athlete's punishment.

#### **ACTIVITY CODE**

Students participating in the activity program at the Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway school districts are subject to the following expectations. These expectations apply year round, regardless of whether school is in session.

- 1. Citizenship (see 'CITIZENSHIP' on page 2).
- 2. Refrain from the use of profanity.
- 3. Maintain good school attendance.
- 4. Attend all practices and games.
- 5. Demonstrate positive attitude and behavior.
- 6. Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- 7. Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and controlled substances.

In not meeting expectations one through seven, coaches, sponsors, and/or administration will use their discretion in assigning consequences to the student. Every effort will be made to ensure that the consequences are appropriate with respect to the violation and that a standard of fairness is applied to each individual situation.

#### **STUDENT SELF REPORTING**

Any student who has a disciplinary action, ticket, or encounter with law enforcement or the court system must self-report the incident to the administration. Students who have such violations are not eligible by MSHSAA citizenship standards until all obligations of said infraction are fulfilled. Knowingly participating while under such probation puts the team in jeopardy of having to forfeit contests. Therefore, students are to self-report the incident to the administration, who will investigate the incident and hand down the proper punishment. Failure to self-report puts the student athlete in jeopardy of having further punishments/restrictions placed on him or her.

Examples of action that might be taken:

1. Athlete caught during season, first offense as tenth grader.
  - (a) During football the athlete would sit 15% of nine games or 1.4 games that would be rounded to one game.
  - (b) During basketball it would be 15% of twenty-two games or three games.
2. Same athlete gets caught again as a junior, they would be required to sit for 50% of in-season games. This may carry over such as: sit the last two football games = 22% and 28% of basketball or six games to get a full 50%.

Any student who commits an act for which charges may be, or have been, filed by law enforcement authorities under any municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony statute shall not be eligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. If law enforcement authorities determine that charges will not be filed, eligibility will be contingent upon local school policies.

After a student has completed all court appearances and penalties, has satisfied all special conditions of probation, and remains under general probation only, local school authorities shall determine eligibility.

Moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol, or injuries to others.

#### **SUBSTANCE POLICY**

The Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway school districts follow strict policies regarding student health issues and the use of controlled substances. Mood-altering chemicals are a significant health problem for adolescents. The use of tobacco and mood-altering chemicals such as alcohol, marijuana, and other controlled drugs impairs one's ability and skills necessary for activity competition.

The districts want to be as consistent as possible in dealing with situations that may arise during the year. With this in mind, some procedures concerning the use of controlled substances have been set.

Athletes may be reported to be using or in possession by a member of the Nodaway-Holt R-VII or West Nodaway staff, Board of Directors, or by a law enforcement agency. Determination that an offense has taken place may come from:

1. Observation and mandatory report by a sponsor or coach of any student involved in their activity or by an administrator. This report must be in writing and attached to the student activity contract, which is on file in the Principal's Office at each school.
2. Observation and voluntary report by Nodaway-Holt or West Nodaway personnel. This report must be in writing and attached to the student activity contract.
3. Legal conviction.
4. Failed Drug Test.

Offenses will carry over from year to year beginning with sixth grade. Punishments follow students throughout the entire year even if the student is not participating in any activity during the period when he or she gets into trouble.

Even though not playing in a contest, the athlete is expected to be at all practices leading up to and during the enforcement of the penalty.

The coaching staff, faculty and administration believe that students should not be in attendance at illegal functions composed of minors who are using controlled substances. Therefore, any student reported to be in attendance at such functions will be punished the same as if he/she was using a controlled substance. The bottom line is, if there is a controlled substance there; remove yourself from the situation as quickly as possible.



## **TOBACCO/E-CIGARETTE/VAPORIZER USE**

Possession or use of any tobacco/e-cigarette or vaporizer products on school property, school activities, or as witnessed by a member of the Nodaway-Holt R-VII staff or Board of Education in areas away from school:

1. **First Offense** – The student will automatically be suspended for 1 activity contest.
2. **Second Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 30 days.
3. **Third Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 90 days.
4. **Fourth Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 365 days.

Each subsequent offense will result in an additional ineligible period of 365 calendar days.

All offenses are cumulative beginning with seventh grade or at such time as the student transfers (enrolls) at either Nodaway-Holt R-VII or West Nodaway.

## **ALCOHOL**

Possession, use, or attendance under the influence of alcohol, or as witnessed by a member of the Nodaway-Holt or West Nodaway staffs, Board of Educations, or as reported by law enforcement authorities on or off school property.

1. **First Offense**– The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 30 days.
2. **Second Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 90 days.
3. **Third Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 180 days.
4. **Fourth Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 365 days.

Each subsequent offense will result in an additional ineligible period of 365 calendar days.

All offenses are cumulative beginning with seventh grade or at such time as the student transfers (enrolls) at either Nodaway-Holt R-VII or West Nodaway R-I.

## **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

Possession, use, or attendance under the influence of any unauthorized prescription drug, narcotic substance, counterfeit drugs, drug related paraphernalia, sale, or distribution of the same, or as witnessed by a member of the Nodaway-Holt R-VII staff, Board of Education, or as reported by law enforcement authorities on or off school property.

1. **First Offense**– The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 30 days.
2. **Second Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 90 days.
3. **Third Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 180 days.
4. **Fourth Offense** – The student will be suspended from all activity teams/contests for a period of 365 days.
5. All offenses are cumulative beginning with seventh grade or at such time as the student transfers (enrolls) at either Nodaway-Holt or West Nodaway.

The punishments listed above are the minimum penalty for each offense. Coaches may add to any reprimand for breaking team rules at their discretion.

## ATTENDANCE

A student must be in attendance the **entire day (8:00-3:40 for Nodaway-Holt students and 7:55-3:40 for West Nodaway Students)** in order to attend or participate in a school activity that same day. This means, if a student is tardy to first hour they are ineligible to participate in any extracurricular that day. **Certain instances will be excusable at the discretion of the principal (advanced approval required for appointments), or a doctor's note is presented.** All excused absences will be addressed individually by coaches, and could require training/conditioning for time missed. This could also lead to a reduction in playing time as stated by individual team rules.

If an event is scheduled for a Saturday, students must be in attendance the entire day (8:00-3:40 for Nodaway-Holt students and 7:55-3:40 for West Nodaway Students) on the preceding school day, or be excused by the principal, to participate.

If a participant has more than 3 unexcused (an absence that is not pre-arranged with the head coach) absences from practice or an activity, they may be removed from the activity.

Students must be in attendance for at least half of the school day to be able to attend practice unless prior approval has been granted by administration.

## EXPECTATIONS OF FANS

It is the belief of the Nodaway-Holt R-VII and West Nodaway R-I school districts that our fans should be a favorable reflection of the school and community. Any behavior that is contrary to this should be carefully scrutinized.

The following expectations apply to students, patrons, and other fans of the Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway school districts:

1. Our opponents, their coaches, and fans are guests in our house and should be treated with courtesy and respect.
2. Fans should refrain from criticizing game officials. They are trained in the mechanics and rules of game officiating. Game officials are human and will make mistakes. That is simply a part of the game. They are here to assist in the administration of the game, they don't care who wins.
3. Fans should only make gestures or hold up signs that encourage our teams.
4. Fans should only engage in songs, chants, and slogans designed to encourage our teams.
5. Above all, fans should remember that the game is for the players.

**Failure to follow these expectations may result in removal from the event and possible barring from future events.**

## PARTICIPANT FORMS

Prior to participating in cross country, football, volleyball, golf, basketball, track, baseball, or cheerleading, each student must have on file in the office:

1. A valid, completed physical examination form
2. MSHSAA Pre-Participation Documentation – Annual Requirements Form
3. Signed Handbook Agreement Form & Student Contract

Insurance is available through private companies and information can be obtained in the office.

MSHSAA requires a physical examination to be completed every two years, but they require the Pre-Participation Documentation to be completed annually.

## **SWAY TESTING (CONCUSSION)**

All Nodaway-Holt JH and HS athletes will be administered a SWAY baseline concussion test. These baselines are done every 2 years. Athletes who are suspected of having a concussion will be given a follow up test, known as a Post-Injury Test. The information obtained from these tests will be given to the athletes and to their doctor to help them assess the severity of the injury. Athlete protocol for return to play following a concussion will follow MSHSAA policy and athletes will only be allowed to return to play when cleared by a physician. The Nodaway-Holt school district will work in coordination with local doctors to help establish and maintain appropriate protocols for concussion evaluation.

## **TRANSFER OF ELIGIBILITY**

Students transferring from one school district to another must file an eligibility transfer form. The student may not participate at their new school until that form is complete. MSHSAA has specific guidelines for transfer of eligibility. Check with school administration to receive a form and more information on transfer.

## **CONFERENCES WITH COACHES AND SPONSORS**

All coaches will be available at times to discuss the progress of your student. However, there are limitations to what a coach will discuss and at what times. The following is a summary of appropriate subject matter and timeliness:

1. Coaches/Sponsors will only discuss your student, their progress, attitude, and any other essential information. Coaches/Sponsors will not discuss other students.
2. Coaches/Sponsors will not discuss game strategy or play calling.
3. Coaches will not discuss playing time issues with parents. Team members are encouraged to come to the coach to discuss these issues.
4. If a conflict exists between the student and coach/sponsor and the student does everything possible, the parent should first visit with the coach/sponsor in an effort to resolve the conflict. If that too does not yield results, the parent should visit with administration.
5. Parents should never request a meeting with a coach/sponsor during or immediately following a contest. Rather, the parent may contact the school **after 24 hours have passed** after the contest to make an appointment with the coach/sponsor.
6. Parents should not contact a coach/sponsor at home to discuss conflicts, nor should they insist that the coach/sponsor address the conflict in a public place away from school grounds. Coaches are under no obligation to respond to text messages or messages on personal phones. Coaches will disseminate pertinent group information via Remind text.
7. Parents should contact the coach by contacting the school and setting up a time for a phone call or meeting.

These guidelines are established to allow the most professional relationship possible among coaches, sponsors, students, and parents. They also serve as a guide to head off any situations that may be potentially embarrassing to the people involved.

## **PROVISIONAL LETTERING**

A provisional letter may be granted to a participant who is not able to complete the season due to illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance except suspension for violation of policies or academic ineligibility. If a participant is granted a provisional letter or returns to a full letter in the succeeding year in that activity, they will be considered as having fully lettered in the provisional year.

Requirements for a provisional letter will follow the format of lettering requirements for that particular activity. The participant and head coach/sponsor of the activity will agree by contract on what further requirements must be met in lieu of participation.

## **VARSITY LETTERING REQUIREMENTS**

Any participant that earns a varsity letter will be at the discretion of the head coach. The head coach will make the final determination whether or not a participant meets the requirements they have set for their team and has earned an activities letter based upon his/her contributions to the sport.

Junior High participants will receive a certificate of recognition as a member of the Junior High Activities Program upon successful completion of the sports season and if they are in good standing with the team and activities program.

## **GAME ADMISSIONS**

### **ALL HOME BALL (NODAWAY-HOLT OR WEST NODAWAY) GAMES:**

Adult (out of high school)	\$5.00
Student	\$3.00
Pre-school and under	Free
Senior Citizen	Free

### **TOURNAMENT ADMISSIONS**

<u><b>Volleyball</b></u>		<u><b>Basketball</b></u>		<u><b>Baseball</b></u>	
Adult	\$5.00	Adult	\$5.00	Adult	\$5.00
Student	\$3.00	Student	\$3.00	Student	\$3.00
Pre-school & under	Free	Pre-school & under	Free	Pre-school & under	Free

## **FREE ADMISSION POLICY**

Free admission to athletic activities will be granted to the following people:

1. Bearers of 275 Conference passes, spouses, and their school age children.
2. Persons working at the event (team members, linemen, chain gang, band, cheerleaders, concession stand workers, law enforcement, ambulance, **students taking pictures for the yearbook for either Nodaway-Holt or West Nodaway**, etc.).
3. Preschool age and under children.
4. Non-conference coaches, administrators, cheerleader sponsors.

## **ATHLETIC COOPERATIVE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

When a patron of either district has a concern about issues relating to an activity in which Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway schools have a cooperative agreement, it best serves that all resolutions be sought at the lowest level of a chain of command. Therefore, it is essential that this chain of command be established. No one in this hierarchy of the chain will hear a grievance before those preceding them in the chain have heard the grievance. After a meeting at each level, if resolution is not achieved, the grieving party may request a hearing to the next level of the chain. Such hearing should then be scheduled to occur within one week of the request (sooner if possible). Each member of this chain of command should be in attendance at all hearings that occur above their level in the chain.

The chain of command for airing grievances will be:

1. Parent Meeting with the Head Coach
2. Parents and Players meeting with the Athletic Director from the school which the student attends.
3. Parents and the Principal from which the school in which the coach is an employee.
4. Superintendent from which school the coach is an employee.
5. Finally, the School Board from the school to which the coach is an employee. It is to be understood that the administration of each school will confer when the grievance reaches the administrative level.

After the School Board has heard the grievance it will make its decision and the decision will be final.

## **COACHES DISCRETION AND RULES**

Each individual coach will be given the discretion to administer team rules not specifically mentioned in this handbook. These rules may be stricter than the items listed in this handbook, but they cannot be more lenient. Matters such as

excused vs. unexcused practices, game-day dress, etc. will be up to individual coaches to decide. Coaches will inform administration, players and parents of any such team specific rules.

#### **ISSUES NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED**

Not every issue or situation can be predicted and planned for. Should matters arise that are not specifically mentioned in the handbook, administration from both school districts will meet and discuss the issue prior to any decision being made. Administration reserves the right to assign consequences either not contained in this handbook or to modify consequences contained herein.

## Nodaway-Holt R-VII & West Nodaway R-I Activities Handbook & Agreement

Please read this booklet and agreement in its entirety. It provides important information about how our school functions. After you have read the handbook and agreement, please sign and return this sheet to the principal's office.

I have read the contents of the 2024-2025 activities handbook and affirm that I understand and will abide by the guidelines set forth within. I agree that violations of these policies may result in disciplinary action as described in this handbook.

Student Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian  
Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

As a service to our students and coaches, Mosaic Medical Center-Maryville Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine provides Nodaway-Holt, and Fairfax Community Hospital provides West Nodaway, with certified athletic trainers to assist in recovery following any type of athletic injury. The trainers advise students on recovery exercises and drills following an injury. Trainers will visit each school on a weekly basis. In addition, these trainers are in attendance at some of our athletic contests and can provide assistance if needed.

## Student Activities Contract

Nodaway-Holt and West Nodaway are both members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association. Therefore, we believe that interscholastic activities are an integral part of the secondary curricular program and extension of the classroom. Our school's program shall supplement the curricular program of the school and shall provide the most worthwhile experiences possible. These expectations shall result in learning situations that contribute to the development of the attributes necessary for good citizenship.

### Fundamentals of High School Activities

When we host an event, our opponents should be treated as guests. Officials should be recognized as impartial arbitrators who are trained to do their job. Familiarity with the current rules of the game and the recognition of the necessity for a fair contest are essential. Sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own bias and the ability to prevent the desire to win from overpowering rational behavior.

### Expectations for Students

Your enthusiasm as a spectator, or participant, includes responsibility for good sportsmanship. Your habits and reactions determine the quality of sportsmanship and reflect upon our school and community. Students are expected to:

- Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of good sportsmanship.
- Respect, cooperate, and respond to cheerleaders.
- Respect school property and authority.
- Show respect for opponents and opposing coaches and fans.
- Show respect for players who are injured.
- Respect the judgment of game officials.
- Avoid profane language and obnoxious behavior at all times.
- Refrain from heckling, jeering, or distracting opponents.
- Refrain from throwing objects onto the playing area or in the bleachers.
- Refrain from using cheers that taunt or ridicule opposing players, coaches, cheerleaders or spectators.
- Refrain from booing or showing displeasure with game officials or game activities.

I certify that I have read and understand the above expectations and information related to sportsmanship. I understand that I am a role model for the younger generation and that I represent our schools and communities when I attend or participate in an activities function. I also understand that if I do not comply with the above listed responsibilities, I may forfeit my privilege of attending future activities involving our school.

Student Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Alternate Transportation Permission Slip

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the guardian over \_\_\_\_\_ and I give  
Guardian's Name Student's Name

them permission to ride home with \_\_\_\_\_ from  
Name of person they are riding home with

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.  
Activity & Location Date of activity

**I understand that by signing this form, I grant permission for my child to depart from the above referenced school activity with the person designated above. Thus, my child will not be returning from the above referenced activity to the premises of either the Nodaway-Holt or West Nodaway school district via transportation provided by either district. BY SIGNING THIS FORM, I AGREE TO ASSUME THE RISK OF TRANSPORTING MY CHILD FROM THE ABOVE REFERENCED SCHOOL ACTIVITY, AND I AGREE TO RELEASE, FOREVER DISCHARGE, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE NODAWAY-HOLT AND WEST NODAWAY SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS OR LIABILITY THAT MAY ARISE DURING, OR AS A RESULT OF, THE TRANSPORTATION OF MY CHILD FROM THE ABOVE REFERENCED SCHOOL ACTIVITY.**

Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Alternate Transportation Permission Slip

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the guardian over \_\_\_\_\_ and I give  
Guardian's Name Student's Name

them permission to ride home with \_\_\_\_\_ from  
Name of person they are riding home with

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.  
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Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_