Priest River Junior High



Student Athlete Handbook 2023-2024

Athletic and Sportsmanship Excellence All Day Every Day

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INTRODUCTION

The interscholastic athletic program is completely voluntary. Participation is not required for graduation, nor are athletic credits needed for college entrance. Involvement in the athletic program, however, does require extra effort and time on a voluntary basis beyond the regular school day. Although interscholastic athletics are voluntary, those participating do represent their student body and communities. Therefore standards, including academic requirements, citizenship, sportsmanship, conduct and loyalty must be maintained at a high level. The total school program is reflected in the interscholastic athletic program. The selection of team members is necessary. However, the selection of team members is not based solely upon athletic performance, but also upon attitude, conduct, cooperation, loyalty and an earnest and sincere desire by the student to participate on the team in a fashion that compliments the school and community.

MISSION

The Board of Trustees believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the development of all students. Activity programs should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life. Activity programs should function as an integral part of the total curriculum. They should offer opportunities for the student to develop all-around growth, to learn the qualities of good citizenship, and to develop positive self-esteem.

PRJH ATHLETIC CODE

REQUIRED FORMS (at the end of the handbook) - All forms must be filled out completely and returned to Angie Goins, Athletic Director, before any student-athlete will be allowed to participate in any sports' practices and/or games.

- Any parent/guardian who does not hold private health insurance can access school insurance for the 2023-2024 school year. Parents or legal guardians will need to complete the provided insurance form and email it to Angie Goins at angiegoins@sd83.org.
- A travel card that accompanies Coaches to every game in the event of an emergency must be completely filled out.
- Physical form that must be completed by a licensed physician; the physical will cover the two years at PRJH.

OFFERED ACTIVITIES AT PRJH

FALL	LATE FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Football Volleyball Cross Country Cheer	Wrestling	Girls' Basketball Boys' Basketball Cheer	Track

PROCESS FOR PARENT COMMUNICATION

We encourage you to bring issues and concerns to our attention whenever they arise. It is important that we work together for the benefit of the student-athlete. If a parent questions a coach's judgment of an athlete's performance or behavior, they should take the following steps:

- 1. Contact the Coach via phone or email regarding the concern.
- 2. Contact the Athletic Director if the matter wasn't resolved and/or request a meeting.
- 3. Request an appointment with the Principal if you feel dissatisfied with the outcome of the meeting with the aforementioned.

SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

All school rules and School Board Policies are in effect and apply to all students that participate or attend activities which involve PRJH. This includes any and all activities & events, home or away, or any event such as, but not limited to, athletic contests or field trips.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY (ASB) CARD

All PRJH students will be issued an ASB card at no charge. The ASB card will not provide the benefits of entering school activities and events either free of charge or at a reduced rate *unless* the ASB sticker has been purchased and added to the student's card.

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY (ASB) STICKER

All student body officers, representatives, and students who participate in any extracurricular activity provided by the school are **required** to purchase an ASB sticker. ASB stickers are available in the office for \$20.00. All other students are urged to purchase an ASB sticker. It can be used for admittance to games and other school events at less or no cost. Proceeds are used to help support student activities and services.

ATHLETIC POLICIES

The following outlines the rules and guidelines understood by participants and their parents/guardians for participation in school activities. It is the responsibility of the parents and participants to abide by these rules for the year in which it is signed. It is also to be understood that extracurricular activities for the students are a privilege in this school district and the State of Idaho, not a student right.

WORK ETHIC

Work ethic is going to be an integral part to a student-athlete's success at school every day. The Work Ethic grade reflects three key categories: <u>timeliness</u>, <u>citizenship/teamwork</u>, and <u>quality</u> <u>of work</u>. Work Ethic scores are based on the guidelines within our PRJH Work Ethic rubric that every student possesses in their binder.

Homework is an essential part of student learning. Students should expect daily homework assignments that are due the next class meeting. Having a designated time and place at home to complete homework is an important step to ensuring student-athlete success.

We encourage all student-athletes to meet with any teacher(s) when they're struggling in a class to receive extra help and to avoid sport ineligibility.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS / HOMEWORK

Missed assignments threaten student success. We want to encourage parents to stay informed about their child's academic requirements in every class. It's well known that students who complete classroom assignments/homework will perform better on quizzes/tests. Practice improves content knowledge, skills, and concepts. *Unproductive behavior that interferes with teaching and learning will be referred to the Principal and any student-athlete who disrupts the learning process may jeopardize their ability to participate in sporting events and/or games.* Student-athletes who are not working to their full potential and toward academic *mastery* in classes may be considered insubordinate, resulting in lunch detention, after school detention, and/or athletic suspension. Friday school may also be imposed.

GRADES

Priest River Junior High School strives to provide a variety of co-curricular opportunities throughout the school year. Students participating in these activities are *expected to maintain high academic and behavior standards*. Student athletes wishing to participate are eligible at the beginning of every sports' season; however, they must adhere to the following eligibility requirements:

The day **BEFORE ALL** games and/or scrimmages, student-athletes must request an effort form from their advisory teacher and take it to each teacher for an overall effort grade. Any student-athlete with an **effort grade** of a "1" may continue to attend practices but **NOT** play in the upcoming game.

- The form MUST be submitted to the Coach during practice.
- If at the next check, a student-athlete's effort score increases, they will regain full eligibility.
- Student-athletes who receive a "1" or "2" on **any assessment** (test/quiz/project) must make arrangements with their teacher(s) to redo for a chance of a better score.

Student-athletes are encouraged to make the first point of contact with their teacher(s) to request extra help. Remember, many teachers are willing to meet before school, after school, or during lunch.

SKYWARD

- Student-athletes need to take responsibility and frequently check Skyward for their academic and effort grades. We want to make sure that every student-athlete experiences success on and off the court/field. It is highly recommended that parents frequently check student grades to ensure accuracy.
- Parents are encouraged to check their student-athletes online progress. Parents may download the Skyward App from Google Play or the Apple App Store. Search West Bonner County Schools, install, and select 'yes' for Push Notifications.

BEHAVIOR

Any student-athlete who receives disciplinary action for moderate to severe infractions at any time during school hours will become ineligible to play in the upcoming game. This includes during classroom time, during lunch, before or after school, or on the bus. *Student-athletes are expected to uphold a high standard of positive behavior.*

MODERATE INFRACTIONS (after warning(s) had been given)

- Excessive tardies
- Excessive disruption in the classroom
- Blatant disrespect toward peers/adults
- Excessive incompletion of work and/or refusal to complete work (non-compliance)

SEVERE INFRACTIONS

- Fighting
- Bullying/Harassment
- Vandalism
- Smoking/Vaping
- Weapon
- Inappropriate use of technology

SCHOOL AND ATHLETIC ATTENDANCE

- If a student-athlete is absent from school, they may **NOT** attend practice or a game on that day.
- If a student-athlete is in attendance at school, they are expected to attend practice. If for some reason a student-athlete cannot attend practice, they must report the reason to their Coach and/or Athletic Director at some point during the day.
- If a student-athlete misses 1 unexcused practice, the student-athlete will sit out 1/2 a game.
- If a student-athlete misses 2 practices, they will sit out for an entire game.
- If a student-athlete misses 3 practices, they will be removed from the team.

We understand extenuating circumstances happen and these will be considered on a case by case basis.

STUDENT-ATHLETES' CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

- Students will not use tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or electronic cigarettes of any kind and are prohibited for use or possession. Student-athletes shall also avoid places where these substances are being used illegally by others. Any athlete found guilty of use or possession will be removed from the team for the remainder of the season and possibly for the remaining activities offered during the school year. Local authorities will be notified if this use or possession occurs on school grounds, on District transportation, or activities sponsored by the school.
- Any student who spends the day suspended (in school or out of school) will not be allowed to participate in that day's event, regardless of whether it is a practice, game, or match. **Student-athletes will need to attend Friday school.**
- Good citizenship and sportsmanship is expected at all activities. Participants shall behave in a manner that represents PRJH in high regard to our teachers, teammates, coaches, opponents, and community.

- Any defiance of school authority or inappropriate use of technology, including phones, will not be tolerated. Phones are to be turned off and stored in a locker during school hours. Using any device for bullying or harassment toward another student or students during school sponsored activities will result in immediate removal from activities for the remainder of the school year plus discipline per PRJH policy.
- Each student-athlete is expected to be in class prepared and on time, follow classroom rules as well as hallway and lunch behavior expectations.
- Excessive tardiness or inactivity in the classroom, including non-dress in PE class, may lead to disciplinary action for the student-athlete, which would directly impact eligibility for game play.
- Each athlete will be expected to put forth his/her best effort given his/her skill level and abilities.

INJURY

Every possible care will be taken to prevent injuries, but the possibility of injury does exist as it does in all physical activities. We believe the benefits from participation far outweigh the risk of injury.

PARENTS/SPECTATORS CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

Treat all coaches, referees, opposing teams, and other parents/fans of PRJH with respect. Junior High-level sports are a crucial time for building positive team rapport, and parents can be role models and be positive examples for student-athletes.

• Failure to present a safe and positive culture for our students, coaches, referees, and/or spectators will result in removal from the event/school campus.

THE PRJH STUDENT AND ATHLETIC HANDBOOKS ARE APPROVED POLICY AND ARE IDENTIFIED UNDER WBCSD #83 POLICY & IDAHO CODE.

We, the parent/guardian and student-athlete, have read and understand the contents of the student-athlete handbook.				
Student-Athlete Name (Print):				
Parent Signature	 Date			