

MARATHON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Rule 377

ATHLETIC CODE

A. Eligibility Rules

1. In order to represent Marathon High School in interscholastic competition:
 - a. The athlete must meet the rules of eligibility set by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and any additional Marathon City School District rules.
 - i. Quarter Grades will be used to determine academic eligibility.
 - b. A pledge must be signed in person by the parent/guardian and athlete stating that the athlete will abide by the terms of this athletic code. The pledge must be filed with a school official before the student may participate in practice or athletic events. Athletes will only need to sign the pledge once and it shall remain in effect until the athlete graduates or transfers from Marathon High School.
2. No student may be a member of more than one athletic team per season.
3. An athlete must be in attendance a minimum of four (4) complete consecutive class periods (all periods counted except lunch) representing a half day of school; periods 1-4 Morning or periods 5/6-9 Afternoon depending on lunch to be eligible to practice or play that day. (i.e. If a student eats 5th hour lunch, then for meeting afternoon half day students must be in attendance periods 6-9. If a student eats 6th hour lunch, then for meeting afternoon half day students must be in attendance periods 5-9.) Four periods in the middle of the day do not qualify for eligibility. If an athlete has an unexcused absence for all or part of the day, he/she shall not be allowed to practice or play that day. Exception will be given for pre-excused absences made in writing at least one school day in advance. Also, an athlete may be given one warning per year for unintentional unexcused absences such as oversleeping due to a power outage, etc., at the discretion of the principal/athletic director. A student determined to be skipping or truant will not be considered for an exception.
4. Continued participation in interscholastic athletics shall be at the discretion of the school's administrators.

B. Conduct Rules

The following conduct rules shall be in effect on a year-round basis.

1. Athletes shall not manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use, buy or sell alcohol, controlled substances, tobacco products, street drugs, or performance-enhancing substance.
2. Athletes shall not participate in or be present at activities at which controlled substances are being used or alcoholic beverages are being unlawfully consumed.
3. Athletes shall not commit acts of vandalism.
4. Athletes shall not engage in conduct contrary to the ideals, principles and standards of the school or the WIAA, including but not limited to criminal behavior.

C. Penalties for Violation of Conduct Rules

The penalty for violating this athletic code shall be based on the maximum number of contests per sporting season as stipulated in the WIAA handbook. The suspension for seasons that have 12 or fewer contests is different than for seasons that have 13 or more contests.

An athlete may have his/her suspension reduced if he/she seeks counseling. Counseling must be done with an accredited program and:

1. The athlete must be enrolled in the accredited program.
2. The program must be completed within a specified time, as determined by the counselor.

An athlete must complete the sports season in which he/she is serving a suspension in order for the suspension to be fulfilled.

Athletes shall participate in as many practices as prescribed by the coach during all suspensions in order to serve the suspension to its completion.

TERM OF SUSPENSION COUNSELING SERVICES

<u>Offense</u>	<u>12 or Fewer Contests / 13 or More Contests</u>
First offense	1 contest / 2 contests
Second offense	4 contests / 8 contests
Third offense	1 year
Fourth offense	1 year
Fifth offense	1 year

*Suspension due to a(n) alcohol, controlled substance or tobacco product rule violation shall consist of no less than one day of competition.

*If the athlete is suspended for one or more WIAA tournament competitions, the minimum penalty is immediate disqualification of the athlete for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.

TERM OF SUSPENSION WITHOUT COUNSELING SERVICES

<u>Offense</u>	<u>12 or Fewer Contests / 13 or More Contests</u>
First offense	2 contests / 4 contests
Second offense	8 contests / 16 contests
Third offense	Career
Fourth offense	Career
Fifth offense	Career

*Suspension due to a(n) alcohol, controlled substance or tobacco product rule violation shall consist of no less than one day of competition.

*If the athlete is suspended for one or more WIAA tournament competitions, the minimum penalty is immediate disqualification of the athlete for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.

D. Appeal Process

If a student denies violating the athletic code, he/she shall be given an opportunity to be heard prior to any penalty being enforced.

An appeal of suspension may occur in the event that an athlete feels a wrong decision has been made. The "Appeal Process" outlined below is the procedure for an athlete and/or his/her parent/guardian to follow in appealing decisions relating to suspension. It should be understood that the athlete and/or his/her parent/guardian must follow the "Appeal Process" steps listed below in the event legal action is to be initiated at some later date.

1. An initial appeal shall be made in writing and be received by the High School Principal within seven business days from the notification of the suspension. The written statement shall include the reason for the appeal.
2. The High School Principal shall advise the party requesting the appeal of the time, date and place of the hearing.
3. A hearing on the appeal shall be conducted by the District Administrator within 14 business days after the notice of appeal is received by the High School Principal. Present at the hearing, in addition to the District Administrator, shall be the High School Principal and/or Athletic Director, the athlete, his/her parent/guardian and any other pertinent representatives. The athlete shall be provided with an opportunity to testify and present other evidence on his/her behalf.
4. If an athlete or his/her parent/guardian is not satisfied with the decision of the District Administrator, he/she may appeal to the Board of Education. The athlete and his/her parent/guardian have seven business days from receipt of the District Administrator's decision to submit an appeal. A written statement shall be forwarded to the Board through the District Administrator stating the grounds for the appeal.
5. A hearing on the appeal of the District Administrator's decision shall be conducted by the Board of Education at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The athlete, his/her parent/guardian, pertinent representatives and witnesses shall have the opportunity to present evidence. The Board of Education shall make a decision and mail such decision to the party requesting the appeal within five business days after the hearing.

E. Dissemination of Rules and Information

1. Copies of this athletic code shall be made available to students and parents/guardians. A copy of the WIAA Official Handbook is available at the Marathon High School for parents/guardians and athletes to review.
2. A public announcement shall be made if this athletic code is changed and copies of the revised code shall be made available in the high school office.

APPROVED: June 13, 1990

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May 13, 1992
November 16, 1994
July 15, 1998
May 28, 1999
July 21, 1999
February 13, 2002
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