

GRAND HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

2015-2016



STUDENT-ATHLETE PARENT HANDBOOK

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www.ghaps.org

To save time and obtain current information (forms, schedules, directions to away events, etc.)
you are encouraged to browse on the
Grand Haven Area Public Schools' website and click on the Athletic Department Link.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Grand Haven High School
17001 Ferris Street
Grand Haven, MI 49417



Home of the Buccaneers
Colors - Blue and Gold
OK Red Conference
Class A

Athletic Office - 850-6030
Athletic Office (FAX) - 850-6035

High School Office - 850-6000
High School (FAX) - 850-6020

Director of Athletics, Scott Robertson
Assistant Director of Athletics, Ron Allen
Secretary to Director of Athletics, Rita Way
Principal, Tracy Wilson
Asst. Principal, Mike Roberson
Asst. Principal, Travis Spaman

Grand Haven Area Public Schools' Board of Education

Andy Ingall, Superintendent
John Siemion, President
Carl Treutler, Vice President
Christine Baker, Secretary

Seth Holt, Treasurer
Mike Cramer, Trustee
James O'Neal, Trustee
Nicole Stack, Trustee

POSTPONEMENTS / CANCELLATIONS

Postponements and cancellations are the responsibility of the athletic office. Decisions will not be made earlier than 1:00 p.m. Announcements of cancellations/postponements will be made at school, and on WGHN (FM 92.1 or AM 1370) radio station.

MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Your student has indicated a desire to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program. Parents of student athletes also commit themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations, which are outlined in this athlete-student-parent handbook. Your signature on the Athletic Code, along with the signature of your student-athlete, indicates that you understand and accept those responsibilities and obligations, and agree to cooperate with school personnel in enforcing the athletic code.

Parents are encouraged and expected to model good sportsmanship at all times during athletic events. Input is encouraged when done properly (see parent-coach communications). Adults must adhere to acceptable standards. Failure to lead by example may result in removal from the event and/or future events. All parents are invited to join the Buc Boosters to help promote and support the tradition of excellence associated with Grand Haven Athletics.

MESSAGE TO ATHLETES

Grand Haven has a long history and tradition of athletic excellence. This tradition was not built overnight. It took years of dedication, commitment, and hard work by countless individuals. As a Grand Haven Athlete you must continue to maintain this standard of excellence.

Your participation in athletics is a privilege and should be treated as such. Anytime you wear the blue and gold, you are representing yourself, your family, your school, and all those that have worn these colors before you. Your behavior should be above reproach in all areas. Other students, staff, parents, and the community will closely observe your conduct.

Failure to follow the rules established by the team and the Athletic Code will result in disciplinary actions up to and including suspension from school, suspension from athletics, expulsion from school and/or denial of future participation in athletics.

Behavior unbecoming of a student-athlete will be dealt with and consequented on an individual basis.

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools District believes that interscholastic sports:

- Are an integral part of the total educational experience for all students.
- Provide opportunities and experiences which assist students in their personal adjustment and development.
- Help meet the students' needs.
- Provide good training habits necessary to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, leadership and teamwork.
- Should strive for excellence.
- Provide the spirit of competition and sportsmanship for athletic teams.

A quality athletic program is the shared responsibility of the students, staff, parents and community. It requires a supportive environment that allows for participation among students, staff, and parents. It is our expectation that our athletes hold themselves to the highest standards whether they are in the classroom, on the playing field, or in the community. It is our expectation that our staff, coaches, and parents, also, represent themselves and the school in a positive way when they attend any athletic event, home or away. As with any successful team, we must all work together to ensure that Grand Haven athletics continue our tradition of excellence.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Athletes as well as parents can help establish an outstanding reputation for good sportsmanship. We must all work hard in conducting ourselves in a commendable manner. Displays of unsportsmanlike conduct can result in sanctions against the offending athlete, parent, and/or school. Always observe the following guidelines for good sportsmanship:

- The good name of our school is more important than any contest won by unfair play.
- Be supportive of all athletes, coaches, and officials before, during, and after all contests.
- Accept decisions of officials without dispute. They are seldom responsible for your success, so do not blame them for your circumstances.
- Recognize and show appreciation for the fine play of your opponent.
- Be proud of our school's reputation and work hard to protect it.
- Cheer for your team, not against their opponent.
- Don't allow others negative sportsmanship to become an excuse to do the same.

PARENT/COACH RELATIONS

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your son or daughter becomes involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your student-athlete. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student-athlete's program. For further information on this topic, please pick up a copy of the Parent/Coach Communication Guide.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR SON/DAUGHTER'S COACH:

1. Expectations the coach has for your daughter/son and the team.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, team/individual camps.
4. Procedures to follow should your student-athlete become injured during participation.
5. Team rules, guidelines, and requirements for earning awards.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM STUDENT-ATHLETES:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
2. Special concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Injury or circumstances that may endanger the athlete when participating.

As your son/daughter becomes involved in the athletic programs at Grand Haven High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your student-athlete wishes. At these times discussions with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. The treatment of your student-athlete, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your student-athlete to improve.
3. Concerns about your student-athlete's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your son/daughter's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your student-athlete's coach. Other things, such as the following, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. However, if you have a concern, you may want to discuss the issue with your son/daughter first. You may find through this communication an answer, resolution, or understanding of the situation before contacting others. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH, THE PROCEDURE YOU SHOULD FOLLOW:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment with yourself, and your student-athlete.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, and the meeting will be set up for you.

Please give yourself time to understand your concern before approaching a coach. Attempting to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice is not acceptable. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution. We fully support the use of the 24-hour rule.

WHAT CAN A PARENT DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION?

1. If a positive resolution is not reached, please contact the Athletic Director and a meeting with the coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.
2. If a positive resolution is still not reached, a meeting with the Principal, the Athletic Director, the coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.

ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

Girls Sports - Fall

Sideline Cheer
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Swimming/Diving
Volleyball
Equestrian*

Girls Sports - Winter

Basketball
Bowling
Competitive Cheer
Ice Hockey*
Skiing*

Girls Sports - Spring

Lacrosse
Soccer
Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Water Polo

Boys Sports - Fall

Cross Country
Football
Soccer
Tennis
Water Polo

Boys Sports - Winter

Basketball
Bowling
Ice Hockey*
Skiing*
Swimming/Diving
Wrestling

Boys Sports - Spring

Baseball
Golf
Lacrosse
Track and Field

*In recent years, sports and levels of teams have been added to the GHAPS athletic program without complete school district funding. Equestrian, Ice Hockey, and Skiing, are partially funded by the district and the balance is funded by the participants.

FALL SEASON

Football starts practice/tryouts on August 10, 2015

All other sports starts practice/tryouts on August 12, 2015

WINTER SEASON

Ice Hockey starts practice/tryouts on November 2, 2015

Basketball Girls, Bowling Boys/Girls, Skiing Boys/Girls, & Competitive Cheer start practice/tryouts on November 10, 2015

Basketball Boys, Swimming Boys, Water Polo Boys & Wrestling starts practice/tryouts on November 16, 2015

SPRING SPORTS

All spring sports start practice/tryouts on March 14, 2016

TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Grand Haven offers numerous athletic programs to accommodate the interests and skills of interested students. Some teams have limited numbers of players and students must try-out for a position on the team while other programs can accommodate unlimited numbers of team members.

Participation

Participation in interscholastic athletics is voluntary. Each student must accept the responsibility of self-discipline as it relates to studies, conditioning, sportsmanship, and personal conduct. Also each participant must agree to abide by sport, program, school training, and Michigan High School Athletic Association rules.

Athletes must agree to abide by:

- Student-Athlete-Parent Handbook
- Athletic Code - signed by athlete and parents
- Team rules
- Rules and regulations of MHSAA

Try-Outs

Students wishing to participate on athletic teams must:

- Have a completed registration form on file in the athletic office for each season of participation
- Meet the residency requirements set forth by the MHSAA
- Meet academic requirements
- Show proof of a physical exam and have it on file in the athletic office - annually
- Sign the athletic code annually

Students who join a team after the first official practice (date set by coach, which cannot be earlier than the MHSAA beginning date) must practice with the team for at least two (2) weeks before being allowed to participate in an athletic contest. Students who participate in a fall or winter sport with an extended season (districts, regionals, etc.) will be able to participate in winter or spring seasons following a mandatory resting period of at least three days.

Cuts

The district cannot provide a team for every student who wants to play interscholastic sports. Therefore, in some situations students will not make the team. The coach will provide information as to what criteria will be used to select team members. Participation in off-season or preseason camps or meetings is not a determining factor. Factors that may determine team members include, manageable number of participants, skills of individuals, and team requirements by position. The athletes not making the team will be notified through a meeting with the coach. This can be a very emotional and difficult time, please be as supportive of your athlete as possible.

Team Advancement

The intent of advancing an athlete to a level beyond that at which he/she would normally play (9th grade athletes on the freshmen level, 10th grade athletes on the junior varsity level and 11th and 12th grade athletes on the varsity level) is to provide an exceptionally talented athlete the opportunity to enhance his/her experience and skill development, as well as contribute to the team, by participating at a more challenging level.

The head varsity coach is responsible for making the initial recommendation regarding who should be considered for team advancement in the program. The proposed team advancement must be discussed and approved by the Athletic Department, the Head Varsity Coach and the parent(s) prior to any discussion of the opportunity with the athlete. Academic progress, emotional maturity, and peer relationships, as well as athletic ability, will be considered as part of these discussions. If the athlete is advanced, he/she must be assured of an opportunity to improve his/her skills through playing time similar to what he/she would have had at the lower level. The team advancement decision must be assessed regularly by the coach, the Athletic Department, the athlete, and the parent(s). The placement decision may be reversed.

Equipment

Athletes will be issued equipment with the provision that it will be returned at the end of the season. Athletes will be held accountable for the cost of lost equipment. Game uniforms which will be issued prior to the first contest are not to be worn at any time other than an athletic contest.

If lockers are required, they will be assigned prior to the start of the season. Athletes are to remove equipment and clean-out lockers immediately after the season ends. All lockers need to be available for cleaning at the start of the next season.

Transportation

School-owned vehicles are provided for each athletic contest, whenever possible. ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO RIDE TO AND FROM EVENTS IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION, UNLESS ARRANGMENTS ARE MADE FOR DROP-OFF ONLY

Transportation will not be provided to weekend events for High School Athletic Programs. Parents/Adult Drivers may provide weekend transportation if they submit an approved permission slip and volunteer application form.

Dropping Out of A Sport

- Quitting a team is a serious matter. No athlete should quit a team without first discussing his/her intention to do so with the coach.
- An athlete will not be permitted to participate in another sport until the season of the sport he/she drops has been completed.

MHSAA REGULATIONS

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has been the governing body of high school athletics in our state since 1924, and Grand Haven Area Public Schools is part of the 733 public, parochial and private schools that have agreed to follow the rules and regulations MHSAA helps enact. The following is a summary of the MHSAA Ten-Point Checklist for Student Eligibility:

Age

A high school student is ineligible if they have reached their nineteenth birthday before September 1 of a current school year.

Undergraduate Standing

Students involved with high school sports cannot be a high school graduate.

Physical Examination

Students must have a physician's statement for the current school year on file, in the athletic office, (after April 15), certifying that he/she is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests.

Enrollment

Students must be enrolled in school prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day or the fourth Friday of February. A student must be enrolled in a minimum of four (full-credit) courses (2.0 credits) in the school for which he or she competes.

Semesters of Enrollment

Students cannot be eligible in high school for more than eight semesters and the seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. Students are allowed four first semesters and four second semesters of competition and cannot compete if they have graduated from high school. When two seasons leading to a state championship of the same sport are offered in a school year, an athlete may participate in only one.

Transfer Students

A student in grades nine through twelve who transfers to another high school is not eligible to participate in an interscholastic contest for 90 regularly scheduled school days unless the student qualifies for immediate eligibility under one or more of fifteen published exceptions.

Undue Influence

The use of undue influence by any person directly or indirectly associated with a school to secure or encourage the attendance of a student for athletic purposes shall cause the student to become ineligible for a minimum of one semester.

Limited Team Membership

After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school. Any participation in non-school individual meets during the high school season must be reported to the athletic department prior to participation.

All-Star Competition

Students shall not compete at any time in any sport under MHSAA jurisdiction in All-Star Contests or national championships regardless of the method of selection. Participation in such a contest shall cause that student to become ineligible for a maximum period of one year of high school enrollment.

Awards and Amateurism

Students cannot receive money or other valuable considerations for participating in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contests, except as allowed by the HANDBOOK. Students may accept, for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports, a symbolic or merchandise award, which does not have a value over \$25.00. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips and admission to camps or events, are permitted if accepted "in kind". Awards in the form of cash merchandise, certificates, or any other negotiable document are not allowed.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

- Previous Semester Record: 1. No student/athlete who has failed two (2) or more classes in the previous **semester** shall represent Grand Haven Area Public Schools in athletic competition.
- Current Semester Record: Progress checked every 3 weeks for each athlete. Any student-athlete failing more than 1 class will be ineligible for not less than 1 full week or until that student-athlete is no longer failing more than 1 class.
2. Those student athletes failing to meet these standards will be ineligible to participate for 90 school days.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

- **ATTENDANCE IN ALL CLASSES OF EACH SCHOOL DAY IS EXPECTED** for students to be eligible to participate in practices and contests that day/night. A student who has an exempt absence because of a funeral, medical appointment, field trip or some other school approved activity is considered to be in school for that day. Exceptions will be dealt with on an individual basis through the Athletic Department.
- Unexcused absences are not acceptable for student-athletes. A student-athlete earning a third unexcused absence for any part of or full day, will be ineligible for the next contest. Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in ineligibility for the next contest.
- Attendance at all practices and contests is expected.

ATHLETIC / FINE ARTS DECISION-MAKING POLICY FOR CONFLICTS

The Purpose of this policy is to help a student make a decision when there is a conflict between athletic and fine arts events. In this policy, "event" refers to: a game; a competition; a practice; a performance or a rehearsal.

1. At no time will the student be adversely penalized because of the choice made.
2. When the choice is made, the time needs to be made up and a reasonable make-up assignment will be given. (The student will contact the coach or fine arts teacher for the make-up time or assignment.)
3. Items of precedence:
 - a. Game or competition over practice/rehearsal
 - b. Performance over practice
 - c. State-sponsored events would have priority
4. When two events are unavoidably scheduled in conflict with one another, the fine arts teacher(s) and affected coach(es) will meet with one another prior to discussing any resolution of the situation with the involved students. If the fine arts teacher and the coach come to agreeable terms as to which students are most needed at which event, they will both communicate their desires to the affected student. If the student accepts the decision made, there is no problem. If the student does not accept the decision and has a strong preference that runs contrary to the decision made by the adults, the student's decision will be honored. The student needs to communicate their decision to the coach and fine arts teacher. The student also needs to contact the coach and/or fine arts teacher for the make-up time and/or assignment.
5. If the Fine Arts Department schedules events beyond their published calendar, all efforts will be made to choose a date that does not conflict with regularly scheduled events. These events must have the approval of the building principal. If a conflict occurs, the student is exempted from either obligation.
6. At times when athletic events must be rescheduled because of bad weather, all efforts will be taken to avoid a conflict with regularly scheduled Fine Arts Department dates. If a conflict occurs, the student is exempted from either obligation.
7. Athletes or fine arts students shall not be adversely penalized or made to feel guilty for choosing one school event over another. Fine arts teachers and coaches will not use pressure tactics in attempting to sway a student to choose one event over another.
8. If a student consistently chooses fine arts events over a sports event, the student may jeopardize their ability to earn an award for that season. Conversely, if the student consistently chooses a sports event over the fine arts event and does not make up the assignment, the student's performance grade for the performances missed will not be earned.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Athletes must obtain a physical exam, signed by an M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner who administered the physical exam, stating that the student is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests. Forms are available at the high school athletic office and on the GHAPS website. The physical must be dated after April 15, 2015 for this school year. Athletes must have a copy of their physical on file in the school athletic office before they may participate in any practice or game.

INSURANCE

Grand Haven Area Public Schools do not assume financial responsibility for medical, hospital, or ambulance expenses incurred because of athlete injuries. Athletics is a voluntary program in which students participate if they so desire. They do this at their own risk.

The Athletic Department has purchased blanket coverage through the First Agency of Kalamazoo, Michigan. All athletes must take this coverage, which assures protection for all athletes throughout the season only for injuries that occur at a specific incident or accident when participating as a member of a Grand Haven Area Public Schools team during the defined athletic season. Each athlete has no limit catastrophe medical insurance for any injury incurred through athletic participation. All athletic insurance is secondary coverage. This means the family's personal policy pays first, and the school policy pays all other out-of-pocket costs incurred because of medical treatment that promotes healing and will not cover procedures deemed not medically necessary.

Athletic team members are required to enroll in the current Board of Education sponsored athletic insurance program prior to participation in each sport. The fee must be paid before a student may participate in any contest or scrimmage. This is a supplemental coverage, which pays only the excess over which the individual, family, or employer group insurance does not pay. All claims must be made to the High School Athletic Director.

ATHLETIC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

INSURANCE:

Rate for ALL Sports: \$25.00

REQUIRED SERVICE FEE:

FACILITY USE FEE:

Fully Funded Sports

High School	\$110.00 per athlete/per sport
Middle School	\$90.00 per athlete/per sport

Partially-Funded Sports

High School and Middle School	\$25.00 per athlete/per sport
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Family Maximum

High School	\$300.00 per year
Middle School	\$200.00 per year

Financial Aid is available to student-athletes that receive Free or Reduced Lunch. Please see the Athletic Office for assistance.

Athletic Team members are required to pay a Facility Fee and Insurance prior to participation in any interscholastic competition/scrimmage.

PARTIALLY FUNDED SPORT FEE:

In recent years, sports teams have been added to the athletic program without available funding from the school district. As funds became available, those teams/sports received funding. The following sports/teams are primarily funded by the participants: equestrian; varsity ice hockey; boys' and girls' skiing. Some of the sports/teams use fund raising to cover the cost and others require participants pay a fee to cover costs. The charge to participants is determined upon the funds raised, the number of participants per sport/team, and overall operating costs.

ATHLETIC CODE

Rules are enforced for all athletes in grades 7 through 12. Rules are enforced for athletes on a year-round basis.

Application of the Code during the summer session is for violations that are recorded in a written police report received by the District and/or supported by compelling and credible evidence of an egregious violation of the Code.

- Use, possession, concealment, distribution, or sale of:
 1. Any alcoholic beverage.
 2. Any drug or other controlled substance including, without limitation, any of the various steroids.
 3. Any tobacco product.
 4. Cyber Image Policy – Any identifiable image, photo or video which implicates a student-athlete to have been in possession or presence of drugs or portrays actual use, or out of character behavior or crime, shall be confirmation of a violation of the code. It must also be noted that there may be persons, who would attempt to implicate an athlete, by taking such images, to place them in a situation where they might be in violation of this code standard.
- Violation of federal, state or local laws or ordinances.
For example: Hazing is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any athletic team. Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates. Hazing is against the law and is not tolerated.
- Theft or destruction of property.
- Violation of districts' "Student Code of Conduct" (Policy #5145.6).
- Any cumulative or gross misconduct.

Drug Testing: May occur, subject to individualized reasonable suspicion. A committee of the Athletic Director, Principal and the athlete's coach will evaluate evidence and determine appropriate action. A consent form for drug testing must be signed by the athlete and parents/guardian before participation on any athletic team will be allowed.

ATHLETIC CODE VIOLATIONS / PENALTIES

Violations of the Athletic Code accumulate throughout the athlete's career. Extenuating circumstances may allow the building Principal or Athletic Director to reassess the punishment resulting from the infraction.

Middle School to High School Probation: If an athlete violates this Code during the 7th or 8th grades, the athlete will be placed on probation during the 9th grade. If the athlete has no violations of this Code during the 9th grade, then the athlete will be removed from probation and any subsequent violation will be treated beginning with the first offense step. If the athlete commits another violation during the 9th grade, it will be treated as a second or subsequent offense.

Violations other than academic or eligibility deficiencies shall fall under the following penalties:

1. Code Violations:
 - a. **A first offense**, will result in the student-athlete being ineligible for ¼ of the competitive regular season. (NOTE: First offense – senior year violations will preclude the student athlete from winning any senior award voted upon by the coaches.)
 - b. **A second or subsequent offense**, will result in a full season of ineligibility.
 - c. **A third offense**, will result in a full calendar year of ineligibility.

All drug/alcohol violations will require the student-athlete to attend at least 1 counseling session by a trained Professional.

*All code violations offenses will be cumulative.

DISQUALIFICATION FROM A CONTEST

Michigan High School Athletic Association Regulation V Section 3(D)

The following policies for disqualification shall apply in all sports:

- When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for at least the next contest/day of competition for that team.
- When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.
- Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season; any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season; and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport, that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.
- Failure of the school, for any reason, to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular season contest/day of competition.
- Disqualification from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors.
- If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

Violation of Michigan High School Athletic Association Rules will be reported to the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

AWARDS POLICY

A Grand Haven High School student can earn **one** varsity letter, **one** Buccaneer head and **one** set of graduation numerals per high school career. A pin is also awarded for each letter earned in a specific sport.

Freshman - Each ninth grade athlete will receive a freshman certificate and numerals.

Junior Varsity - Each first year junior varsity team member will receive a junior varsity certificate and Buccaneer head. Each 2nd year junior varsity team member will receive a junior varsity certificate only.

Varsity - Each first year varsity team member will receive a varsity certificate, a varsity letter. Each 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year varsity team member will receive a varsity certificate and sport pin.

Participant Certificate - Any athlete or manager who does not qualify for the award at that level, will receive a participation certificate.

Special Awards - Certificates are available for special awards given by the team.

Plaque Award - Awarded to seniors who have earned five or more varsity awards.

Steven Sluka Award - Given to the top male and female senior multi-sport athletes who demonstrate good character, is involved in community activities and contribute to his/her team.

OK Athlete-of-the-Year - Given to a male and female senior athlete who demonstrate athletic ability, scholarship, and good character.

Todd Chittenden "Team Above Self" Award - Given to a male and female senior athlete who has participated in more than one sport, has demonstrated hard work, been team oriented, has hustle, and always displayed good sportsmanship and respect.

Wm. Louiselle Award - Given to the top male and female golfers of the year.

National Scholar Athlete Award - Army Reserve Award, presented to the top male and female senior athletes who demonstrate outstanding achievement in a varsity sport while maintaining superior grades.

Distinguished Athlete Award - U.S. Marine Corps presents this award to one exemplary male and female citizen and role model that has exhibited personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership in a varsity sport.

West Michigan Showcase - Awarded to senior male and female athletes who have exhibited ultimate virtuosity and exceptional performance.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Student athletes planning to participate in Division I or II college athletics must apply for certification from the NCAA Clearinghouse before graduation from high school.

Please be advised that NCAA Certification requirements are ever evolving. Student-athletes and their parents are encouraged to make an appointment with their Guidance Counselor to obtain the most current information and forms.

NATIONAL COLLEGE TESTING DATES

ACT

September 12, 2015

October 24, 2015

December 12, 2015

February 6, 2016

April 9, 2016

June 11, 2016

SAT

October 10, 2015

November 7, 2015

December 5, 2015

January 23, 2016

March 12, 2016

May 7, 2016

June 4, 2016

**The Best Way to Teach Good Sportsmanship
Is to Practice Good Sportsmanship**

OK RED CONFERENCE

East Kentwood Falcons
Grand Haven Buccaneers
Grandville Bulldogs
Hudsonville Eagles
Rockford Rams
West Ottawa Panthers

OK RED CONFERENCE TICKET PRICES

Adults \$5.00

Students \$3.00

**SCHOOL SONG
HAIL TO THE VARSITY**

Cheer for the Blue and Gold,
Cheer them along the way,
Onward to victory,
May we win again today,
Rah! Rah! Rah!

Cheer for the Blue and Gold,
Long may they reign supreme,
Shout till the echoes ring,
For the Glory of our team.

**GHHS ALMA MATER
BLUE and GOLD**

We never will forget the days we spent at Haven
High, the friends we met and learned to love until
the day we die. The green hill that we knew so
well, and memories ever told. The heroes on the
fields of glory wearing blue and gold. We will
always gather to pledge our faith anew, our love
for alma mater, and for each other too! And as
the years go passing by, we'll think of days of old:
And times we've spent with loving friends who
wore the blue and gold.

BUCCANEER SPORTS BOOSTERS

The Buccaneer Sports Boosters is an athletic booster group of people who raise funds primarily for providing awards nights for all teams during each season. Funds are also used to help with non-required equipment for teams. Funds are primarily raised through the sale of the sports programs, advertising in the program and the concessions that are run at all home events.

- Each Grand Haven Area Public Schools sanctioned sport must have a representative as an active member of the Buccaneer Sports Boosters monthly meetings. The representative(s) should be designated by the head coach and can only represent one sport throughout the year. The team representative(s) must attend at least 75% of the monthly meetings for their team to qualify for financial benefits. Teams without representation will not be entitled to financial benefits from the organization.
- Each Grand Haven Area Public Schools sanctioned sport will be responsible to help operate the concession stand during an off-season athletic event. Head coaches may appoint a parent to be in charge of getting workers and signing up for dates through the Buccaneer Boosters. The Buccaneer Sports Boosters Concession Committee will be responsible for inventory and getting the necessary information to the contact person for each sport.

All parents and supporters are encouraged to become a member of the Buc Boosters. They meet the first Monday of the month. Everyone is welcome.

GO BUCS!

**THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING
GRAND HAVEN ATHLETICS**

Grand Haven Area Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, height, weight, marital status, handicap, disability, or limited English proficiency in any of its programs or activities.

The following office is designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Assistant Superintendent of Human Services

Grand Haven Area Public Schools, 1415 Beechtree Street, Grand Haven, MI 49417 616.850.5085