



Student-Athletic Policy

Philosophy

Rutland Middle School's staff and administration recognizes the value of curricular and extracurricular programs and their role in developing well-rounded, contributing individuals. All students are eligible and encouraged to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities throughout their attendance at Rutland Middle. Parents, family and community members are also encouraged to take an active part of our school to ensure students have the opportunity to excel in many areas of personal development, including academics and athletics. Any extracurricular program that is sponsored by the school will be organized by the school and must operate under the school's **Code of Conduct**. At RMS every student will be given an opportunity to participate on a school team. At the Grade 6, 7 and 8 levels, a "no-cut" (based on athletic ability) policy exists whereby every student will receive as close to equal playing time in all exhibitions, league and playoff games.

Insurance

Student athletes are not covered under any BCSS or School District #23 policy for injury or accident. Private insurance options are available from the school. If you wish information about this, you can contact the office.

Fees

RMS has an athletic fee & individual sport fee for any student participating in school sports at RMS. Fees are used to help maintaining and keep sports running at RMS. The athletic fee is a one-time payment that all student-athletes are required to pay per year to play any sports at RMS. This fee is necessary as it covers items such as equipment replacement/maintenance, bussing fees, uniforms, medical supplies, facility use, sport dues, student athletic BBQ, individual team wrap up social, etc. Please note that this is on top of any other fee that is required for a particular sport. The individual sport fee is dependent upon which sport the student-athlete is playing. The individual sport fee covers materials such as the cost associated with tournaments, referee costs, field lining, individualize clothing, etc. Furthermore, these fees do not include student's personal equipment such as kneepads, cleats, or mouthguards.

Playing Up

Students will **not** be allowed to play up in an older age group of RMS team unless the older team does not have enough players in that age category. The playing up player must have permission from parents, coaches, athletic director and school administration.

Eligibility

1. Academic Responsibilities

Participants in extracurricular activities must be mindful of their school responsibilities and be aware that these come first and foremost. Although academic standing is not a criteria for inclusion/exclusion in extracurricular activities, students with failing grades or unsatisfactory work habits may be temporarily suspended from their team until the student's academic standing has improved.

2. Citizenship and Behaviour Expectations

Students who fail to live up expectations of the school as set out in the RMS Code of Conduct or the guidelines of their coach and/or teacher on or off site may face same consequences as if they had been in a normal school day. One of these consequences may lead to suspension from the school and/or team. Parents will be notified immediately. If the violation occurs off site, the offending student may be returned home (circumstances permitting) with the expenses charged to the parents. A follow-up by the coach and administration will then determine what further action needs to be taken.

3. Student Commitment and Responsibility

Team members are expected to act in such a way that will bring credit to their team and school in accordance with the RMS Code of Conduct.

Regular attendance at practices and games is expected for all athletes. If a practice or game is to be missed for an unavoidable reason, the student must inform the coach, in person, in advance. If a practice or game is missed without an acceptable reason, or without the coach being informed, the student may lose the privilege of playing the next game (coaches/athletic director's discretion) or the privilege of being on the team.

A student joining a team is making a commitment to that team. If a student quits a team without the coaches/sponsor's consent after having chosen to participate, then he/she might **not** be allowed to participate in other school extracurricular activities.

If a student has an **unexcused** absence for any of his/her classes in a day, the student cannot participate in any athletic activities that day. The student may also miss the next game(s) depending on the severity of the offence (coaches/athletic director's discretion)

When a student will be absent from one or more classes due to involvement in an extracurricular event, he/she will be required to have the necessary form filled out, signed by his/her teacher.

Students will be expected to pay a fair replacement cost for any uniform or equipment which is lost or damaged while in their care. Student may be expected to help with scoring, timing, helping, or officiating at competitions.

RMS Athletics Code of Conduct

Before participating in a school sport, RMS students & parents are to agree to the RMS Athletic Code of Conduct. I realize that it is a privilege to participate in athletic activities at Rutland Middle School. Accordingly, I hereby agree to obey the following regulations and training rules as set by the R.M.S. Athletic Department.

In order to remain eligible to play extra-curricular sports at R.M.S.:

- a) My commitment and involvement in a sport cannot adversely affect my academic grades or work habits to the extent that I am failing one or more subjects.
- b) I must maintain a satisfactory sense of fair play, citizenship and attendance record.
- c) I will conduct myself in an orderly manner, both on and off school premises, in such a way as to bring credit to myself, my school, and family.
- d) In the event that my sport requires a trip away from R.M.S. during class time, I will make an extra effort to ask the teachers' permission to miss/leave class and cooperate with them to get my assignments in advance. If I do not attend school that day then I will not be allowed to participate that day. I understand that attendance in all classes is mandatory.
- e) In all athletic contests played away from R.M.S. I will ride to and from the games in school transportation, unless special arrangements have been made with the coach and school administration.
- f) My conduct and appearance, while travelling to contests played away from school will be exemplary in all respects.
- g) I will be personally responsible for all school athletic equipment checked out to me and will return it in the same condition when requested by my coach.
- h) I understand that I am responsible for the condition of my uniform and will return it to my coach when required. I also understand that in the event that my uniform becomes lost or damaged I am responsible for the cost of replacement.
- i) I understand that I am committed to a sport for the duration of the season and will attend all meetings, practices and games, unless I have personally notified my coach.
- j) In the event that I cannot fulfill the commitment of my sport, I will personally notify my coach. I understand that failure to do so will result in suspension from further athletic participation at R.M.S. until the matter is cleared up with my coach, the Athletic Director and a member of the Administration.
- k) I understand that smoking is counterproductive to my development as an athlete and general health and that I will refrain from the use of tobacco products in any form.
- l) I understand that the use of any alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs on school-based trips will result in suspension from athletics at R.M.S.



Date: _____

Sport: _____

I accept the RMS Athletic Policy and understand the obligations and responsibilities expected of me.

Student Name

Student Signature

I hereby give permission for my child to participate in the above activity and I accept the condition of the RMS Athletic Policy, which I have read.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

*Note – this page is to be return to the coach/sponsor prior to the first competition