

SUBJECT: SAME SEASON DUAL-SPORT PARTICIPATION

The Wayland-Cohocton Central School District seeks to provide quality co-curricular athletic opportunities for its students. Some students have talents and abilities which they have a desire to contribute to more than one team in a particular athletic season, and both of these teams can benefit. Some activities may struggle with low numbers, and this can boost participation in those sports.

Same season dual-sport participation is a joint decision made by parents, athletes, coaches and administration. Student-athletes are allowed to participate in two co-curricular athletic activities during the same season if they can meet the requirements of each sport program. Students wishing to participate in two sports during the same season will need to obtain a request form from the athletic coordinator and follow the guidelines set down by the athletic department involving dual participation.

REQUIREMENTS OF DUAL-SPORT PARTICIPATION

1. There must be a meeting between the head coaches of each sport, the athletic director, high school principal, student/athlete and at least one parent/guardian may be required. This meeting should occur before practices begin for each sport, and **MUST** occur before any contests.
2. A student who wishes to participate in two sports during the same sport season **MUST** designate a primary sport and secondary sport 2 weeks prior to the date of the first allowed practice determined by the league for that sport season.
3. A primary sport is defined as the sport taking precedence over another sport in the event there is a conflict of schedule or other matter that could lead to conflict. The student **MUST** adhere to the primary sport in the event of any conflicts of schedule. **If one sport has a contest and the other has practice, the contest will take precedence. Otherwise the primary sport will always take precedence over the secondary.**
4. The student must practice in both sports and meet the regulatory groups practice requirements for each sport. In addition, the student must meet the agreed requirements of the head coaches of the sports involved.
5. The student must have no less than a grade point average of 65 in all courses and this must be maintained during bi-weekly grade checks. If any course average falls below 65, if still academically eligible, the athlete may participate only in the primary sport for the remainder of the season.

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6. Approval may be denied due to academic concerns at any time during the sport season. The athlete then will participate in the primary sport only.
7. Once the team is selected for teams with tryouts or after 2 weeks for teams without tryouts an athlete who quits one/both teams will not have the option to participate in any dual sports for the remainder of that school year.
8. If the athlete is removed from either program he/she cannot continue participation in the remaining program until a conference is completed with the athlete, both coaches, the athletic director and the high school principal. After the conference the committee will determine a consequence for the remaining program ranging from suspension to complete removal from both programs.
9. In the event that a student is disciplined for any infraction of the athletic code of conduct, the consequence will be applied to the both sports. The student will from that point forward lose the privilege of dual sports participation.
10. An athlete may compete in more than one athletic contest in one day if the schedule permits. Athletes cannot attempt to play in two games simultaneously.
11. Transportation must be provided by the student-athletes' parent/guardian when he/she cannot be released from their primary sport in time to ride on the team bus. Return transportation back to school will be provided on the team bus.
12. For athletes who select football as their secondary sport, for safety reasons the only position that athlete can participate in is the kicker position, which includes field goals, extra points, kicking off and punting.
13. A head coach always has the right to deny or rescind the dual participation if the coach feels that the dual participation is detrimental to the athlete's potential or to team chemistry.
14. The dual sport athlete must arrange to practice regularly for the secondary sport. If practice is not occurring regularly, the student athlete will be dropped from the secondary sport.
15. Typically, dual participation is more likely to be successful during the fall or spring seasons. In the winter, the numerous conflicts between the sports and training requirements make it highly unlikely that dual participation would be successful or even permitted.
- 16. Certain sports will not be allowed for dual participation. Because of financial commitments; alpine skiing and wrestling.**
17. The athlete and his/her parents agree that splitting time between two sports might result in less participation in both sports.
18. In schools that have experienced successful dual participation, the number of athletes involved is very low. Again, dual participation is not for everyone.

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19. The coaches, athletic director and principal will meet to evaluate this agreement at approximately the midpoint of the season. At this meeting it will be determined if the agreement should be continued for the remainder of the season or should the athlete focus on the primary sport only.
20. The coaches of both sports along with the athlete will develop the game and practice schedule that the athlete will follow for the season including any postseason or sectional contests.
21. Student athletes disqualified for participation in any sport due to discipline by a coach, official, or administration cannot participate in any other sport and will receive the same or equivalent consequence in the other sport.
22. Both coaches must agree to allow dual participation. If either coach is not in favor of it, the student-athlete will be required to choose one sport. **NO SECOND GUESSING THIS DECISION AND NO APPEAL PROCESS.**
23. The application is good for only one sport season (fall, winter, spring) during only one school year. A new application must be completed for any subsequent season or school year.

Adoption: 09/28/2020