

Sunburst Wildcats Athletic Handbook **2020-2021**



Please carefully read and completely fill out all of the attached forms and return them to the Junior High Athletic Director ASAP! The forms listed below must be completed before a student will be allowed to compete in Wildcat games. These forms will work for all student athletic events for the entire 2019-2020 school year.

- Student Athletic Physical (no participation until returned)
- Acknowledgement of handbook form
- Emergency Information form
- Athletic Program Release Form
- Drug Testing Release Form
- Activity fees (\$25 per student or \$125 for family) paid to NTCHS

Dear Parents and Athletes:

The forms and schedules in this handbook are vital to the success of our middle school interscholastic programs. Please read each page together and discuss each item. If you have any questions, please call the office at 937-2811. We look forward to a successful school year. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

PARTICIPATING REGULATIONS & TRAINING RULES

1. Any 5th-8th grade student participating in athletic programs or any other school related activities who knowingly possesses, sells, gives, uses, or is known to be under the influence of any nonprescription drug, tobacco product, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant will be immediately suspended from any form of contest participation for 45 school days from the date of the infraction. For any suspension period which carries over to the subsequent season or other school activity, student-athletes must still show up for the first day of practice and participate with all practices with the team. However, they will not be allowed to compete, travel, dress out, sit on the bench, or otherwise participate in any performances with the team until after the 45-day suspension period is over. A full investigation and disclosure will be conducted prior to any suspension.

2. Behavior on the bus and during the games will be enforced according to the student handbook and will be supervised by the coach. Players and managers will be expected to support the Wildcat athletic teams by sitting in the stands during games.

3. Students must dress appropriately to participate in extracurricular events. **No blue jeans or T-shirts shall be worn on game days.** Students are expected to dress neatly. Dresses, skirts and tops, nice slacks or colored jeans will be acceptable for girls. Girls should not wear high heels, etc. Boys should wear a shirt with a collar or polo shirt and nice slacks or colored jeans. During the month of September, knee length dress shorts are acceptable for male and female athletes. **Student athletes shall not wear hats indoors.** Students that participate in athletics/extracurricular events will not be allowed to have colored hair (red, green, purple, etc.). Boys' hair should be trimmed and neat. Earrings are acceptable, but no facial piercings, etc., will be permitted. The athletic director/administration has the right to expect that students will dress and look respectable when they represent the Sunburst Wildcats. Hoodies will not be acceptable on game days.

4a. Students must maintain eligibility to participate in weekly games. If an athlete has one F or 2 Ds, they become ineligible for that week and that weekend's events. This does not excuse them from practices and they are still expected to attend practice. **If an athlete becomes ineligible for any three week period, (they do not have to be consecutive) during the season, they will be removed from the team for that season or activity.**

b. 8th grade will follow the High School eligibility rules when participating in High School extra-curricular activities.

Eligibility will be determined on a weekly basis. A "failing list" will be pulled by the administration on Tuesday morning; the list will be compiled and distributed to all staff. Any

student who appears for the first time for failing a class/subject will be on “probationary” status. They will be able to participate fully, but if they are failing the same class/subject or another class the following week, they will not be eligible for extracurricular participation for that week. Any student who is currently earning two failing grades will immediately become ineligible with no probationary period. The week of eligibility runs from Tuesday AM to Monday PM.

For athletics and activities, students will be expected to attend all team practices but will not be allowed to travel, “dress out” or sit with the team.

ANY student considered ‘ineligible’, whether they are in an activity or not, will attend Ineligibility Lunch on Wednesday through Monday where they will be provided an opportunity to spend lunch with a teacher to help them get their grades up.

It will be the responsibility of the Principal to contact coaches/sponsors/advisors to let them know which students are not eligible each week. The Principal will also send a letter home to parents each Wednesday morning to alert them to this status.

5. Any student who is suspended from school is automatically suspended from organizations and activities until reinstated by the administration.

6. If a student misses any part of the school day, with the exception of a planned doctor, dental, or other medical appointment with a signed slip, a funeral, or school-sponsored event; he/she cannot participate in any extracurricular activities for that day (including practices). Slips must be signed by the doctor. This includes intramural and all school sponsored activities.

If an athlete misses two or more practices due to illness in a week the athlete will not participate in that week’s games.

If an athlete has one unexcused absence during a week, the athlete will not participate in any activities scheduled for the week.

If an athlete obtains two unexcused absences, the athlete is removed from the team.

Athletes will not be allowed to join a sports team after the season has begun unless they had a previous documented injury or are a new student to the district. During the fall sports season (VB or FB), students will have until the following Monday after school begins to join, although they must meet the minimum amount of required practice before they can compete.

Excused absences (including but not limited to): doctor, dental, or any medical appointment with a signed slip, wedding, funeral, school-sponsored event, etc.

Unexcused absences (including but not limited to): skipping practice for hunting, shopping, household chores, etc.

Final decisions will be made at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

7. No athlete shall be on the football field, track, or in the gym unsupervised.
8. Students must ride the bus both ways when making the trip, unless a student's parent(s) or guardian signs the student out form with the coach and takes their child home from the activity. If written notice and permission from a parent is given to the coach or athletic director prior to the event (if possible), a student may travel home with another adult. If the athlete loses bus riding privileges, parents may transport the player to the game, if arranged with the AD/administration.
9. Students should dress to meet the existing weather conditions. **Students will be required to have a coat or jacket to board the bus, no matter the weather conditions (no hoodies).** Bring warm coats and blankets to away events during the winter months.
10. No one will be allowed in the locker rooms while the game is in progress unless the assistant coach or manager supervises them.
11. All student athletes should behave in a manner that is a credit to themselves, their team, the school, and the community. This includes behavior in practice, in games, in the classroom, and out in the community.
12. A team member must respect the coach, work together with the team, and support the team 100%. A team member with a negative attitude and poor behavior can do nothing but harm the team. A team member must support all Wildcat athletes.
13. As an athlete, you are expected to learn, remember, and practice the following:
 - a. Athletes should be leaders - their behavior should be an example of what others should follow. They need to set the example, not be the example!
 - b. Sports teach fair play, sportsmanship, as well as loyalty, understanding, and appreciation for teamwork.
 - c. Athletes shall strive to respect their teammates, their coaches, other athletes, and themselves.
 - d. Discipline yourself for the good of the team.
 - e. If you join a team, finish the season.
 - f. An athlete's conduct is closely watched in many areas of life. Let your behavior set good examples for all, especially for those younger than you
 - g. Remember, your behavior reflects the teachings of your home, school, and community.
 - h. Athletes are making a commitment to their team and to themselves to excel
14. **All** participants in the athletic programs will be required to purchase an activity pass before they are allowed to participate in games. Activity passes are \$25 for students, \$50 for adults, and \$125 for family. This pass will allow entrance to all junior high and high school athletic events. School Administrators (Superintendent, Principal) will be issued a free activity pass that applies to themselves and their spouses.

15. When/if there is a middle school basketball fall and spring season, a student must participate in the fall season of basketball in order to participate in spring basketball (unless they have moved and are new to the district or an injury prevented them from participation).

16. Cell phones should not be used by student athletes during any athletic events, on the bus, in the locker room, or at practice. All coaches will have cell phones if there is an emergency.

INSURANCE

The Sunburst School **does not carry** medical insurance for your son/daughter that plays in interscholastic sports (football, girls' basketball, boys' basketball, track, volleyball & cheerleading). We do have forms available for school insurance and a specific one that does cover football. Your child will receive an individual insurance form.

Sunburst Athletic Creed

As athletes and fans of the teams present today, we promise to exhibit respect for our opponents, their fans, and the officials. This includes recognizing and appreciating skilled performances of both teams. We promise to gain an understanding and appreciation of the contest and will refrain from expressing negative opinions of the officials, coaches, players, or administrative decisions. We promise to be a positive representative of our school and community before, during, and after all contests. By following and living by this creed, we are promoting a positive place to play and a place where our fans can be positive role models for future athletes and fans.

All forms in this handbook must be completed and returned to the office before an athlete may participate in practice and competition.

SUNBURST SCHOOLS
Box 710
Sunburst, Montana 59482

THIS FORM WHEN SIGNED IS GOOD FOR ALL INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS
THIS SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parents:

Your son/daughter will be participating in an interscholastic sport(s)/extracurricular activities at Sunburst Middle School this year. He/she will be receiving a copy of the Athletic/Extracurricular Handbook. **Please read the handbook with your child and review all policies & procedures listed in the handbook. Parents and athletes, please pay close attention to the Sportsmanship Creed included in this handbook.**

Please sign the form below. To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics/extracurricular activities, your son/daughter must return this form to his/her coach/advisor at the first practice. The coach must also receive a completed physical form before they may participate. One completed physical is used for athletics all school year.

We appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions concerning our athletic policies, please feel free to call Mr. Bucklin at 937-2811.

We have received a copy of the Athletic Handbook and we understand the policies, rules, and regulations stated therein and intend to abide by them.

I GIVE PERMISSION FOR _____ TO PARTICIPATE IN
(Student's name)

Football / Volleyball / Basketball / Track

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Signature of Student

Date

ATHLETIC EMERGENCY INFORMATION & PARENT SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Student Athlete Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Father's Name: _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Emergency Contact (not parent): _____ Home phone: _____

Emergency Contact cell #: _____ Work # _____

I, the parent or guardian of the above named student, give my approval for his/her participation in any of the organized and supervised sport programs/extracurricular activities conducted by the Sunburst Public Schools under the following conditions:

- a. On all trips he/she is to travel under the direction and authority of the supervisor.
- b. No member of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Sunburst Public Schools or EMPLOYEE thereof, will, under any circumstances be held liable for accident, illness, fatality or medical bills incurred as a result of participation in the athletic program or associated trips.
- c. In the case of illness or serious injury, I give medical authorities permission to treat my son or daughter. (Parental consent for medical treatment.)

Parent or Guardian

Date

ATHLETICS PROGRAM RELEASE FORM SUNBURST SCHOOL DISTRICT

I hereby give my permission for my child _____, a participant in the Sunburst Middle School Athletics/Extracurricular Programs and to travel to away events. Transportation will be provided by the Sunburst School District.

As a parent or guardian, I understand that the school and the staff will do everything possible to prevent any accidents over which they have control. However, I fully understand that participation in extra-curricular activities involves inherent risks to students regardless of all feasible safety measures that may be taken by the district. In consideration of the district's agreement to allow my child to participate in the Sunburst School Athletics Program, I agree to accept responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury to my child that occurs during my child's participation in, or travel to and from, these athletic events that are not the result of fraud, willful injury to a person or property or the willful or negligent violation of a law by a trustee, employee or agent of the Sunburst School District.

In the event it becomes necessary for the district staff in charge to obtain emergency care for my child, neither he/she nor the school district assumes financial liability for expenses incurred because of an accident, injury, illness, and/or unforeseen circumstances.

Parent or Guardian

Date

3350F

**DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT FORM
-Accepting Random Drug Testing-**

I understand that my performance in Montana High School Athletic Association (MHSA) or Sunburst High School sanctioned events and the reputation of my school district are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I hereby agree to accept and abide by the standards, rules, procedures and regulations set forth by the Sunburst School District Board and the sponsors for the activity in which I participate.

I authorize Sunburst School District to conduct tests for drug/alcohol use which I will submit to upon request. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such test to the Sunburst School District and to my parent/legal guardian.

As the parent/guardian of said child, I will abide by the principles set forth in this policy and will not willingly allow my child or any underage child in my presence to partake of any drugs, alcohol or tobacco products.

Pursuant to the Family Education Right of Privacy Act 34 CFR Part 99, this form will be deemed as consent for the release of the above information to the parties named above.

Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Mailing Address Date

Received by Date

List of any medications that the student takes regularly or has taken during the past 30 days:

This form must be submitted to the office and must be on file in the office before a student will be allowed to participate in any scheduled contest/activity.

Policy History:

Adopted on: October 17, 2011