



**Fort Washakie School  
2023-2024  
Youth and Junior High Athletic Guidelines**

Athletics have a significant influence on the Fort Washakie Community and enjoy a unique status in our value system. Participation on an interscholastic athletic team is a worthwhile experience, which all students have the opportunity to pursue. Fremont County School District #21 affirms the right of every student to participate in the interscholastic athletic program without regard to gender, race, or creed.

**FWS Athletic Program Objectives**

**Each athletic team will follow four (4) team rules:**

1. Set a good example (at school and in the community)
2. Be on time and be prepared
3. Put forth your best effort at all times
4. No put downs

**REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION**

**Physical**

All students participating in sports need a physical before beginning practice. A physical is valid for one year and must be dated after May 1, 2023.

### **Age & Grade**

Athletes, parents and coaches should always be aware of age and grade restrictions set forth by the WRCAA (Wind River Conference Athletic Association), of which Fort Washakie School is a member, which governs all sports with the exception of non-conference activities.

1. Fifth and sixth grade students are considered to be in the youth program. Seventh and eighth graders are considered to be in the junior high program.
2. Students may be eligible to play in the youth division until the day they turn 14 years of age.
3. Students may be eligible to play in the junior high division until the day they turn 16 years of age.

### **Medical Release Form**

Each student's parent/guardian will complete a Medical Release Form giving permission for emergency medical treatment by a physician or hospital when the parent/guardian is not available. The Medical Release Form will be kept on file by the coach for availability at all practices and contests. Students requiring medical attention must obtain a written release from the attending physician or dentist before returning to practice and/or contests. An updated medical release form is required for each season.

### **Academic Eligibility**

Fort Washakie School recognizes that a student's first priority must be academics. Therefore, education is the most important goal we have at FCSD # 21.

Weekly eligibility reports will be compiled every Friday morning. Fifth and eighth grade students will be determined to be ineligible if they are failing (have more than one F's) in any one of their core classes.

Eligibility for each sport will be determined by using the current quarter grade on a weekly basis.

Eligibility will run Monday – Sunday.

Ineligible student-athletes will receive a grade sheet Friday morning stating what classes they are failing. Grades sheets will be distributed by the Athletic Director.

Students have until 5:15 PM on Wednesday to bring failing grades up to passing to become eligible for the week.

Every Friday, the Home-School coordinator will notify parents of athletes, informing them that their child is failing one or more classes.

In the circumstance of contests being played on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, the student athlete will have until 1 PM to bring grades up to passing in order to participate that day.

Students that are ineligible may attend games if accompanied by a parent. Ineligible athletes may not sit on the bench with the team and may not work in the concession stand. However, the ineligible student may continue to practice with the team unless the coach and teacher decide it is in the student's best interest to attend tutoring sessions.

\*In extenuating circumstances, the principal may make decisions regarding eligibility

### **Dual Participation**

A student may not participate in two school sports at the same time. A student will have two weeks after the season starts to switch sports. Both coaches must give approval of the transfer.

### **Risk of Participation**

All students and parents must realize that there is a risk of serious injury which can result from participation in athletics. The FCSD #21 coaching staff will make every effort to eliminate injury.

### **Concussion**

Any student who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussion shall be immediately removed from the contest or practice and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. Concussion information is included with participation permission slips. Parent/guardian and student athlete must sign proper forms stating that they read and understand the risks involved with concussion when participating in athletics.

### **Residence**

An athlete must have been a resident at the school they represent for at least 90 calendar days unless he/she is: a transfer due to a move or assigned to a foster home by court order.

Any student that enrolls at a different school for the first day of school in the fall is eligible for athletic participation.

A student that transfers from a member to school to a member school and not meeting the transfer rule will only be able to play on the B team in volleyball and basketball. Students may be allowed to participate in football games, wrestling meets and track meets but will not be eligible for the WRCAA end of the season tournament or meets.

## **ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Conduct of student athletes**

A firm fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold regulations and standards of the athletic department. FWS feels that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound athletic program. Due to misconduct, disciplinary action may include detention, suspension from the contest(s), dismissal from the team, notification of the law, and/or any other action reasonably fitting the seriousness of the violation.

### **Individual Coaches Rules**

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations for their respective sport. These rules, as pertaining to a particular sport, must be given by the coach verbally and in writing to all team members and explained fully at the start of the season.

### **School Attendance/Practice/Game Day**

Practice is as important as the game competition. Therefore, an athlete who is not in attendance at school the day of practice will not be eligible to practice that day unless a verified excuse is on file.

Student athletes traveling or participating in an athletic event need to be in school no later than 9 AM on game day. An athlete who is not in attendance at school the day of the game or an athlete who gets to school after 9 AM will not be eligible to play that day, unless the student has a verified medical excuse. It is expected that the athlete will be in school for the full day. Please make every effort to schedule appointments on non-game days.

An unexcused absence is when an athlete is in school but does not report for practice on time, does not check in with a coach prior to leaving, stays after school and does not communicate this to the coach ahead of time. An athlete with three (3) unexcused absences will be dismissed from the team.

***The building administrator has latitude to enforce other reasonable disciplinary actions warranted by the situation.***

**Appearance**

All athletes will wear properly fitting clothes and maintain a neat appearance.

Girls will wear a dress, skirt, blouse and/or nice pants to school and also to and from the contest. T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, and/or blue jeans are not allowed.

Boys will wear a shirt and tie, with a nice pair of pants and also to and from the contest. Shirt tails must be tucked in. Blue jeans may be worn as long as they are not faded, properly fitting and are worn with a shirt and tie.

Coaches are expected to enforce this policy with ALL athletes.

***Failure to follow the appearance guidelines will result in the student not attending and participating in the game.***

**INFRACTIONS/CONSEQUENCES****Skipping Class/Academic Dishonesty**

Student athletes are expected to be in school, attend each class, and be on time each day. Student athletes are also expected do their very best in the classroom and follow the rules. Student athletes receiving an office referral for skipping class or cheating will receive the following: First offense will result in a consequence to be determined by the principal. Second offense will result in a one game suspension. Third offense will result in a two game suspension. Fourth offense will result in removal from the team.

**Disrespect**

Student athletes at FWS are held to a higher standard. This does involve respect. Having respect for your teachers, peers, and yourself. Any student athlete receiving an office referral for disrespect will receive the following: First offense will result in a consequence to be determined by the principal. Second offense will result in a one game suspension. Third offense will result in a two game suspension. Fourth offense will result in removal from the team.

**Bullying/Hazing**

Bullying and hazing of other students will not be tolerated. Student athletes receiving an office referral for bullying will receive the following: First offense will result in a consequence to be determined by the principal and a one game suspension. Second offense will result in removal from the team.

**Harassment**

A student athlete that receives an office referral for sexual harassment, repeated teasing, name calling, racial, ethnic or sexual name calling, touching, grabbing private parts or threats will receive the following: First offense will result in a consequence to be determined by the principal and a one game suspension. Second offense will result in a two game suspension. Third offense will result in the removal from the team.

**Fighting**

A student athlete who is involved in a fight while representing their school should be aware of the repercussions of such an act. During school, practice, or a contest, a student athlete shall strive at all times to keep his/her emotions under control. First offense will result in a one game suspension. Second offense will result in removal from the team.

**Miscellaneous office referrals**

This can include any referral that is not covered in these guidelines, such as theft, lying, non-compliance, vandalism, truancy bus infractions, etc. First offense will result in a consequence to be determined by the principal. Second offense will result in a one game suspension. Third offense will result in a two game suspension. Fourth offense will result in removal from the team.

### **Alcohol/tobacco/drug & inhalant use**

Athletes are expected to set a good example in school as well as in the community. The use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or dangerous/illegal drugs by students or possession of such by students in any school building, on school grounds, at any school function, while on any school sponsored activities, and in the community is against the law. Students are prohibited to be in any school building, on school grounds or at any school function while in possession of or using any tobacco product, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or following immediate prior use of alcohol or drugs.

A student athlete who violates the alcohol/tobacco/drug use policy will result in the following:

First offense will result in a suspension from athletic contests for 14 calendar days. Second offense will result in removal from the team for the remainder of the season. Third offense will result in suspension from athletics for one calendar year.

***Depending on the severity of the incident, student athletes may be suspended from a game(s) on the first offense.***

### **Suspensions**

Student athletes receiving In School Suspension (ISS) will be eligible to practice, but may not participate in an interscholastic athletic activity scheduled on the same day. Student athletes receiving Out of School Suspension (OSS) are not eligible to attend practice or participate in any interscholastic athletic activity during the period of the out of school suspension. Suspended student athletes may only attend games if accompanied by a parent.

### **Due Process**

Any student athlete found in violation of this code of conduct may request to meet with the coach/principal/athletic director to explain his/her actions. If an appeal of the decision is requested, the student and/or parent may appeal to the school superintendent, then to the FCSD #21 Board of Education if needed.

### **Dismissal from the team**

Student-athletes are strongly encouraged to remain a member of the team until the season is complete. Quitting a team without a valid reason is discouraged. The coaches will make every effort to communicate with the athletes to make sure they have a positive experience while participating in athletics. Students must also make an effort on their part to be responsible, accountable individuals.

If a student-athlete has three unexcused absences from practice they will be dismissed from the team. If a student-athlete violates any rules as stated in the code of conduct their consequence may result in being dismissed from the team.

### **Parental Support**

FCSD #21 believes that the presence of parents at interscholastic athletic events is positive and beneficial to the student athlete, the district, and the community. It is expected that parents will conduct themselves in a manner that supports good sportsmanship. Parents are not to belittle coaches, chastise referees, fellow teammates or opponents, or participate in actions or statements that would embarrass the school district and their child. Coach confrontations should be avoided immediately after games. Parents are encouraged to schedule a meeting with the coach and athletic director the following day.

If a parent is asked to leave a game for inappropriate behaviors, he or she will not be permitted to attend any home games until they have completed the NHFS course, "The Role of the Parent in Sport." A certificate of completion must be submitted to the Athletic Director before the parent is allowed in attendance at home games. If a second incident occurs, the parent will not be permitted to any athletic contests for the remainder of the academic year.