

Nebo School District Board of Education

Policy IGDJ

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS

I. PHILOSOPHY

Junior high school competitive activities should provide opportunity for many athletically inclined students to improve their skills, promote school spirit in a limited and controlled manner, and gain insight into other school and community environments. Competitive athletics should be an extension of the regular physical education program and should not be scheduled in place of any physical education or intramural programs offered to students of the school.

It is important that any junior high inter-school competitive programs be conducted on a low key basis and that students in these programs not be subjected to the pressures which are inherent in high school athletics.

II. Objectives

- A. To provide opportunity for improvement of athletic skills and incentives for educational improvement.
- B. To develop principles of sportsmanship through positive interaction with students at other schools and in other communities.
- C. To boost the morale of the junior high students.
- D. To develop good citizenship.

III. ORGANIZATION

- A. All competitive activities are under the administration of the junior high school principals with input from the coaches and physical education teachers.
- B. The junior high school administrators should meet as often as necessary to take care of any problems and provide leadership for the activities program.
- C. Junior high programs are conducted in accordance with rule books published by the National Federation of High School Activities.
- D. Participation in any activity is optional with each individual school.
- E. Each prospective participant shall have a physical examination prior to participation. Junior high schools will use the physical examination Form A, which is provided by the Utah High School Activities Association. Physical examination forms will be kept on file at the school and are valid for one calendar year.
- F. Parents/guardians will be asked to sign a disclosure statement giving permission for student participation in the program and acknowledging the fact that it is a parental responsibility to provide health and accident insurance. Low cost student insurance is available through the school each year.
- G. Participation fees may be assessed as outlined in the approved district fee schedule. Fees will be collected at the junior high school for junior high sponsored programs. Ninth grade students who participate in high school level programs will pay the participation fees at the high schools.
- H. Junior high school administrators must arrange transportation, as needed, for junior high sponsored competitions in accordance with Nebo District transportation guidelines.

I. Competition seasons and moratorium periods will be the same as those defined by the Utah High School Activities Association for high schools.

IV. APPROVED ACTIVITIES

The following activities are approved for Junior High School with the indicated limits on number of competitions per season:

A. Track and Field - Boys' and Girls' Teams- 5 meets

B. Tennis - Boys' and Girls' Teams - 5 meets

C. Basketball - Boys' and Girls' Teams - 16 games plus a maximum of 2 tournaments

D. Cross Country - Boys' and Girls' Teams - 5 meets

E. Golf - 6 meets.

V. COMPETITION RESTRICTIONS

A. In accordance with Utah High School Activities Association guidelines, ninth grade students may try out for and compete on high school sponsored teams. A ninth grade student may not compete on a high school and a junior high school team during the same season.

B. Basketball is defined as a high school freshman program and is, therefore, limited to ninth grade students only. That is because the basketball team competes against other high school freshman teams and is, therefore, subject to UHSAA guidelines and restrictions. Certified officials will be used for all basketball games.

C. Junior high schools will not sponsor track and field competition in the javelin and pole vault events.

D. Junior high schools will not sponsor organized cheerleading groups.

VI. TROPHIES

No trophies may be awarded for team or individual events. Individual or team awards are limited to certificates or ribbons. All awards must be approved by the junior high school principals. Emphasis will be placed on participation, skill development and sportsmanship.

Approved: 3-14-01