Marshall High School
2026-2027
Co-Curricular Handbook



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INTRODUCTION

The Marshall High School coaches/advisors encourage all students to take advantage of the valuable educational experiences offered through participation in co-curricular activities. It is the desire of all coaches/advisors that participation be an enriching and healthful experience in which physical, mental and social growth shall be stimulated. This handbook has been prepared for the benefit of the student, families, and the staff, to make all co-curricular activities a contributing and worthwhile part of the overall school program.

The rules and expectations listed in this handbook along with Marshall School Board Policy, and per WIAA rules/regulations, are in effect year-round, July 1 - June 30

*Co-Curricular suspensions will not be allowed to be served concurrently. For example, if a student is ineligible for academics and then incurs a suspension for a different violation, they may not serve those at the same time. The academic suspension will be served followed by the other violation once the academic suspension has been fulfilled.

Co-Curricular Activities

The Marshall High School Co-Curricular Handbook includes the following activities and any other activities the Board of Education and Administration classify as Co-Curricular:

Art Club
Athletic Excellence
Baseball
Basketball – Boys/Girls
Cheer Team
Cross Country – Boys/Girls
DECA
Drama/Musical
E-Sports
FFA
Family Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
Football
Forensics
Homecoming/Prom Court
HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America)
Math Team
National Honor Society
Science Olympiad
Social Justice Club
Softball
Student Council
Track & Field – Boys/Girls
Volleyball
Wrestling – Boys/Girls

Athletic-Specific Eligibility Rules

Every student who desires to participate in athletics must fulfill the following requirements:

- Have a physical examination (on WIAA Physical Exam Card) on alternate school years.
  Note: Physical examinations taken on or after April 1st are good for the following two years. Examinations taken before April 1st are good for the remainder of that school year and the following school year.
- Parents and students will complete athletic registration in the Bound portal prior to the start of their season. Athletic registration in the portal will include all necessary materials (parental permissions, emergency information, concussion information acknowledgement, sudden cardiac arrest information, etc).
- In addition to meeting the WIAA team requirements for number of practices before a competition, a student athlete must participate in a minimum of 5 practices with their team before they are eligible and are expected to complete the season.

Injuries and Insurance

The participant must report all injuries immediately to the coach/advisor. The coach/advisor shall report the injury to the Principal or Athletic Director as soon as possible. Parents should be notified prior to any medical treatment on the part of the student whenever possible unless emergency circumstances dictate otherwise.

Emergencies that result in injury should also be reported to the coach/advisor, the event coordinator, Principal, or Athletic Director immediately after rendering any necessary first aid or ensuring the safety of the injured party, other participants, or spectators.

Coaches are not trained as medical personnel and should not be expected to make medical diagnoses beyond the level of basic first aid and safety. Parents are strongly encouraged to consult their family physician or school provided athletic trainer for all incidents of injury.

Insurance claims are filed with the injured participant's insurance company.

Information regarding voluntary student accident insurance can be inquired about at the district office.

Academic Eligibility Rules

- Academic eligibility for the 2026-2027 school year will be reviewed based upon a student's progress on the following dates:
    - 2nd semester grades from June of 2026
    - November 4, 2026
    - January 15, 2027 (end of 1st semester)
    - March 31, 2027

- For the dates of June 2026 and January 15, 2027 the student's report card will be used to determine eligibility.

- For the dates of November 4, 2026 and March 31, 2027 the teachers will indicate eligibility in a document sent by the athletic department. If the student is not making adequate academic progress the teacher will indicate "No" on the document. If a student has 1 or more "No's" at the checkpoint they will be placed on a 2 week probation period. During probation, the student may continue to practice and compete. At the end of the 2 week period the student must complete a reinstatement form and they must be meeting the requirements in ALL of their classes or they will begin academic ineligibility.

- To be eligible a student must meet the following requirements:
    - For a traditionally graded class, the student must have a grade of D- or higher
    - For a standards-based class, the student must be receiving 2's or higher in each of the standards for that class or permission can be indicated by the teacher of each class based upon progress to date.
    - If a student has an incomplete from a previous semester, they may not compete (can still practice) until that incomplete has been rectified.
    - If a student is enrolled in an online class, or class taken off school grounds, they must be making adequate progress in that class by consent of their instructor and/or MHS advisor at the date(s) listed above.

- Students who do not meet these requirements will be ineligible to participate in any competitions or contests until completion of the **lesser** one of the following two options, **with a minimum suspension of one competition**:
    1) 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport, as determined by the WIAA.
    2) One-third of the scheduled number of games/meets in the regular season in that particular sport (rounded down if one-third results in a fraction).

  -If the date(s) listed above falls after the date of the earliest competition per WIAA rules, the student will be ineligible to participate in any competitions or contests for 21 calendar days or one-third of the scheduled number of games/meets in the regular season in that particular sport. The lesser of those two options will begin the day report cards are printed, or from the date at the end of the 2 week probation period.
- Upon completion of the suspension the student must meet all eligibility requirements listed above in order to regain eligibility. This will be verified by the student completing the reinstatement form from all of their current classes. This form must be turned in to the

athletic office and signed by the Principal and/or the Athletic Director in order to regain eligibility.

- The student will be expected to participate in practice during their time of ineligibility.

- A student making satisfactory progress in an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) may be exempt from the above academic requirements.

Attendance

- No student shall practice or participate in any co-curricular activity on a school day if the student was not in school and attending (attendance in Physical Education means participation) **all** classes the day of the activity. A reminder that if a student arrives to class 10 minutes after the start, the student is considered unexcused (unless they have an excused pass from the office and/or a staff member). If arrival occurs within 10 minutes of the start, the student is marked tardy.

- If a student misses a class on the day of a co-curricular event and proceeds to take part in the event one, or more, of the following individuals will meet with the student to decide on an appropriate consequence for this violation: Principal, Athletic Director, and the coach/advisor.

- Students may receive permission to practice or compete without being in school for the entire or partial day with cause (e.g. family funeral, medical appointment, etc.). Parent(s) must notify the office **PRIOR** to the absence in order to be eligible to participate. **Along with office notification, if the student is attending a medical appointment, the student must bring a medical excuse from the health care institution in which they had the appointment. A student will be ineligible on that day until the office receives documentation from the medical institution of the appointment.**

- Students may not compete, perform, or practice on the same day that they have to serve an out-of-school suspension. There may also be an accompanying co-curricular suspension based on the nature of the infraction.

- An in-school suspension will result in a warning and allows students to compete, perform, or practice upon the completion of the suspension.

Travel

All participants are expected to travel to and from the activities with the team in school provided transportation. If a student wishes to ride home with their parent(s)/guardian(s), they and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should see the coach following the competition to sign the sign-out form. Both the parent/guardian and the student must sign the sign out form.

If there is an extenuating circumstance where a relative or family friend must provide transportation from an event, a parent must make contact with the Athletic Director or Principal and provide written documentation at least 24 hours in advance of the event.

Due to increased transportation issues with the bus driver shortage, there may be opportunities available for parent(s) / guardian(s) to transport their child to an event. Written and/or electronic permission to the athletic director must be obtained when those opportunities are presented by the athletic department.

Conduct Unbecoming an Athlete/Participant

- Students shall refrain from any habits, behavior, and/or conduct that would reflect unfavorably on himself/herself, or their school. Examples of this include, but are not limited to: profanity, academic dishonesty, stealing of uniforms, stealing of equipment from our school or any other school system, violation of local, county, state, or federal law, unsportsmanlike conduct, written or verbal forms of speech meant to intimidate, harass, and/or degrade another person or team, failure to cooperate with teachers and or school officials, dishonesty with school staff, attendance issues including absences and tardies, and/or insubordination to any staff member

- Students engaging in or being an accomplice to any immoral or unacceptable conduct, contrary to the ideals, principles, and standards of our school are subject to disciplinary consequences. These consequences, for conduct unbecoming an athlete/participant, will be determined by the athletic director in consultation with the principal and advisor/coach.

- Consequences may result in, but are not limited to:
    - written and/or verbal apology
    - one or more game/activity suspension
    - loss of privileges to be a part of the team/activity
    - assignment of potential community service work approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illegal Drugs

It is a violation of the Marshall Co-Curricular Code to use, possess, buy or sell: tobacco products, alcohol, inhalants, controlled substance, vaping devices or products, or any performance enhancing substances prohibited by the WIAA. It is also considered a violation of this rule to knowingly be in contact with someone who is using, in possession of, buying or selling tobacco products, alcohol, inhalants, controlled substances, or any performance enhancing substances prohibited by the WIAA.

This rule is not meant to include presence in an establishment that is primarily an eating-place or presence in such places with parents, or to prevent being employed at such places. It is also not meant to include presence in places like a golf course clubhouse where alcoholic beverages are served, but a participant would have a legitimate reason to be there. Attendance at family gatherings, sponsored by parents, where use of alcohol is occurring will not be considered a violation (this does not allow use of these products). These exceptions would include such logical events as family weddings, and other similar occasions. The use of these products is NOT allowed.

- A student may be suspended from co-curricular activities for violation of any rule or expectation listed in this handbook. Examples include, but are not limited to the following:
    - The use or under the influence of alcoholic or malt beverages.
    - The use, buying, or selling of illegal drugs, alcohol, or malt beverages.
    - Possession of alcoholic or malt beverages.
    - Possession of illegal drugs.
    - Possession or use of prescription medication not prescribed to the student by a physician.
    - Possession or use of tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, electronic cigarettes, or vaping devices.
    - Attendance at a location where illegal activity is taking place
    - Engaging in or being an accomplice to any other immoral or unacceptable conduct contrary to the ideals, principles, and standards of our school.
    - Ticketed by law enforcement for any of the above.

Any additional policy revisions will be distributed to all participants and their parents throughout the school year. Consequences for co-curricular handbook violations not related to alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs will be determined by the principal in consultation with the participant, the coach/advisor, and the Athletic Director and will be handled on a case-by-case basis consistent with district policies. Consequences for violating the alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs component of the handbook are listed below. (Violations are cumulative throughout the student's high school career. They do not reset on an annual basis)

Violation 1: Suspension for 33% of the competitions in that sports/activity's season and student is required to register for and successfully complete the Student Assistance Programming (S.A.P.). If student fails to register for S.A.P. within 1 week of their suspension notification letter the student will begin suspension stated in Violation 2 (to register, the student must contact the school social worker). This will not be recorded as a second violation; however, the suspension for Violation 2 will be the next consequence.

****Self-Report Clause**

If a student chooses to report their alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drug activity to a coach/advisor, Athletic Director, or Principal within 72 hours of its occurrence, the first violation can be reduced to 22% of a season's competitions (a minimum of at least 1 game/contest). The student must still complete the S.A.P. coursework. If a student incurs another violation in their high school career, they will be subject to the penalties of Violation 2 and so forth.

Violation 2: Suspension for a full season, reduced to ½ of the season by registering for and successfully completing an Alcohol and Drug Assessment (paid for by the student/family), and following through with the recommendations of the assessment.

Violation 3: Suspension from all contests/activities for one calendar year.

Violation 4: Suspension from all contests/activities for the remainder of the student's high school career. Request for a reduction in the penalty can be done through an appeal to the Co-Curricular Board of Control if new information is brought forward.

On all offenses, the student will be referred to the school guidance counselor or school social worker to discuss their use pattern and encourage the student to consider an assessment program and follow any recommendations from that assessment.

****Note: Suspension length is based on the season/activity in which the violation occurs, or the upcoming season/activity if the student is not involved in an activity at the time of the violation. Suspensions are cumulative and carry over from one season/year to the next.**

Procedures for Processing Violations and Appeals

- The Principal and/or the Athletic Director will meet with the alleged offender and witnesses. They will investigate the charge and make a decision within a reasonable period of time regarding the consequences.
- The appropriate coaches/advisors may be consulted during the investigation.
- The student will be notified in person and their parent/guardian will receive written notice of the decision.
- Dates of the suspension shall be clearly defined.
- The student will be notified of the appeal procedure: The student shall have the right to petition in writing, within 72 hours of the verbal suspension notification to the appropriate administrator, for review of his/her case before the Co-Curricular Board of Control. The appeal will be considered only if new or additional information becomes available since the initial investigation.

Co-Curricular Board of Control

Membership:
Principal
Athletic Director
Head Varsity Athletic Coaches
Advisors
1 Male, 1 Female Varsity Student-Athlete

A student/parent/legal guardian may appeal the decision of the building Principal and Athletic Director related to a violation of the Code of Conduct. An appeal must be made in writing and be delivered to the Office of the Principal within seventy-two (72) hours following the original disposition. The written notice of appeal must include the reason(s) for the appeal as well as the additional new information that the appellant requests to be considered.

The student/parent/legal guardian may request a conference with the building Principal and Athletic Director in order to better understand the basis for the code violation as well as the consequences.

An appeal shall be considered if the student or their parents have new or additional facts that were not previously considered or brought to light when the initial investigation, finding, and disposition was made. If new information is brought to light, the building principal and Athletic Director will review the information and may reconsider the original disposition and any consequences that have been assigned.

The appeal process is not intended to create a venue in which consequences may be reduced, and an appeal that is centered on reducing the consequences of a violation, and one that does not introduce new facts, will not be considered.

The Board of Control does not have the authority to alter or reduce consequences under the Code of Conduct on appeal. The purpose of the Board of Control is to ensure that the building principal and Athletic Director have conducted a thorough investigation and have implemented the Code of Conduct as outlined above.

Communication

Marshall High School welcomes all participants and their parents/guardians to speak with the coach/advisor of the sport/activity in which the student is involved if there are any concerns. Students are encouraged to speak directly to the coach/advisor regarding any concerns prior to involving parents. However, speaking to a coach/advisor immediately before or after a contest is usually counterproductive as emotions of some or all participants can be running high. Making an appointment to see the coach/advisor at a different time will allow cooler heads to prevail and a more productive conversation to take place. If the student or their parent/guardian is not satisfied with this level of communication, these steps should be followed:

Chain of Command:

1. Student speaks with the coach/advisor
2. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) and student speak with the coach/advisor
3. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) and student speak with the Athletic Director
4. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) and student speak with the Principal
5. Parent(s) / Guardian(s) and student speak with the District Administrator
6. At this point the Parent(s) / Guardian(s) and/or student can ask the District Administrator about addressing the School Board.

Marshall requires that these lines of communication be respected, and asks that all people with concerns be patient in waiting for a response before moving to the next level of communication.

Search and Seizure

A student's athletic/activity locker is the property of the Marshall Public Schools. This locker must be used only for the purposes intended – storage of athletic/event apparel, clothes and personal belongings during practices and games. School officials reserve the right to search the locker, with or without the student's permission, knowledge or consent. (Board Policy 446 and 446.1)

Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring

The Board authorizes the use of video surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment at various facilities and school sites throughout the District, and on school buses. No audio or video surveillance is permitted within the District other than those authorized by policy or the District Administrator, and only if clear and visible notice is provided to any persons entering an area or building subject to video and/or audio monitoring that such monitoring may occur. This does not restrict the collection of video or audio recording at events open to the public.

Personal Communication Devices (PCDs)

Students may use PCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other Board-provided vehicles during school-sponsored activities, at the discretion of the vehicle driver, or sponsor/advisor/coach. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

Students may not use PCDs on school property or at a school-sponsored activity to access and/or view Internet websites that are otherwise blocked to students at school. Use of PCDs in a locker room or bathroom is also prohibited.

Awards

Marshall High School's award system is designed to recognize outstanding service and accomplishment in the co-curricular program. Any student receiving an award should understand that the award is given in trust and may be denied to them for failure to live up to the rules and expectations set forth by the co-curricular handbook and sport team or activity.

- The head coach/advisor shall determine who is to be awarded letters and shall, at the start of each season, set up the requirements for lettering in their respective sport and place them on file with the athletic director.
- Managers may receive a letter as manager, upon successful completion of a season and under the coach's discretion.

GOVERNING AGENCIES

WIAA

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association is the governing agency of all sports in this state. The rules and regulations set forth in this handbook are consistent with those of the WIAA. As a WIAA membership school, all WIAA rules and regulations will be followed by Marshall High School and the students participating in WIAA sanctioned activities.
If you are interested in specific rules, regulations, or interpretations regarding any athletic issue (e.g. – open gyms, out of season contact with coaches, facilities, competitions, transfer rules, age requirements, etc.), feel free to contact the Athletic Office for more information. You may also access the WIAA website for additional information (www.wiaawi.org).

ACTIVITIES

Most activities sponsored by the district have a governing agency specific to that activity. If you are interested in more information regarding specific policies and regulations, feel free to contact the advisor or the Activities Office.

WARNING

Parents and students should be aware that the possibility of injury is present when students participate in both contact and non-contact activities. Contact offerings at Marshall High School include football, wrestling, basketball, baseball, softball, and volleyball. Non-contact offerings at Marshall High School include cross-country, spirit squad, track, drama, etc, though contact may occur in some of the non-contact offerings as well. Therefore, each participant is advised that there is a certain amount of risk involved and they (parent and student) should be prepared and forewarned in the event injury should occur while participating in the aforementioned activities.

Student participation in co-curricular programs is voluntary. Regardless, instruction by the coaches is expected to be proper, reasonable and prudent for all athletic activities, not just the contact sports.

Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL)

Per a constitutional amendment passed by the WIAA in April 2025, students may now monetize off of their Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL). This should not be confused or compared to the NIL rules of the NCAA, the WIAA restrictions are VERY different. It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that any student looking to engage in NIL reaches out to the Athletic Director, along with their parent, to review the opportunity and ensure that it will not jeopardize their eligibility to participate.

Coaching Contact

Per a constitutional amendment passed by the WIAA in April 2025, coaches may now interact and coach/instruct their student athletes during the summer. Coaches can have sanctioned school contact with their athletes from June 1 - June 30 and from July 7 - July 31, with an exception for football which must end 1 week before fall practice. While no participation during this time can be required, the coaches may provide opportunities for the student athletes to improve their skills under their supervision, coaching, and instruction.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Marshall School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex (which includes gender identity, gender expression, transgender status, and gender non-conforming behaviors), race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap as required by s. 118.13, Wisconsin

Statutes. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (color), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The district shall provide appropriate educational services or programs for students who have been identified as having a handicap or disability, regardless of the nature or severity of the handicap or disability. The district shall also provide for the reasonable accommodation of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs with regard to examinations and other academic requirements. Requests for religious accommodations shall be made in writing and approved by the building principal.

The district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. A formal complaint resolution procedure is available, however, to address allegations of violations of the policy in the Marshall School District.

Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to:

District Administrator
Marshall Public Schools
P.O. Box 76
Marshall, WI 53559
(608) 655-3466