

POLICY**INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS POLICY**

In accordance with the [MnSCU Policy 2.6](#), the Ridgewater College Intercollegiate Athletic program serves students who desire athletic competition as a way to reach a better awareness of themselves and others by developing skills, teamwork and sportsmanship through competition. We believe:

- A. Participants are students first and that athletics are but one of many of the diversified offerings in the college's student life program.
- B. That equal opportunities to participate be made available to men and women.
- C. Athletics instill a respect of self and others on and off the field of competition.
- D. That it is important to provide facilities, personnel support, equipment, and adequate funding in order to provide a competitive experience.
- E. The opportunity to qualify for athletic team membership be afforded to all college students.
- F. That we make a commitment to assist athletes in continuing their sport participation and education when requested.

Membership

Ridgewater College shall have membership in the Minnesota College Athletic Conference (MCAC) and shall be affiliated with the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility requirements are established by the National Junior College Athletic Association and the Minnesota College Athletic Conference. A few of the major rules are:

- A. An entering freshman enrolling in college for his/her first term must be a high school graduate or its equivalent and be enrolled as a full-time student with at least 12 credit hours during his/her season of participation.
- B. An athlete may compete in only two (2) seasons of any given sport.
- C. If a sport spans two (2) semesters, the student must be enrolled the semester the schedule begins.
- D. A second semester student, who has not yet participated in a sport, must pass 12 credits with a 1.75 G.P.A. or higher in the previous full-time semester to be eligible to participate, or a combined average of 12 credits for each semester they were a full time student with a 1.75 overall G.P.A.
- E. In order for a student to be eligible for a second season of participation in a given sport, a student who has been enrolled in 2 full-time semesters needs 24 credits with a 2.0 GPA; if the student is enrolled in 3 or more full-time semesters, the student must pass 36 credits with a 2.0 GPA.

Physicals

Students are required to have a physical examination prior to being issued any equipment or participation in any college athletic program, including practice. Students are responsible for acquiring a physical exam at their own expense. Physical exams are only good for one year from the date of exam and must be renewed annually after July 1st. The college must have a copy of the physical on file before any student will be allowed to practice or participate in scrimmages/games.

Insurance

All students who wish to participate in the college intercollegiate athletic program must carry medical insurance. A copy of the College's Athletic Department's Insurance Form must be on file with the Athletic Director prior to any student being allowed to practice or participate in scrimmages/games. The college does not provide athletic insurance.

Injuries

The coach of any given sport has the authority to determine who may or may not participate and to what extent when they have been injured. All injuries must be immediately reported to the Athletic Director.

Equipment

Students participating in intercollegiate athletics will be responsible for all equipment issued to them. Holds will be placed on all records and athletic awards until all equipment has been accounted for.

Travel

- A. Coaches and student athletes **MUST** travel with the team to all competitions.
- B. Personal cars may only be driven with the approval of the Head Coach and the Athletic Director. If such permission has been granted, then the private vehicle must follow the team vehicle(s) to and from the site of competition unless permission is granted by the Head Coach and Athletic Director.
- C. Student athletes **MUST** travel back to the college with the team unless they have had prior approval to leave with their parents or spouse from the opponent's site. All requests for students returning with parents or spouse must be submitted a minimum of one (1) day prior to departure and must be approved by the Head Coach and the Athletic Director.
- D. The college prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of drugs and alcohol by students and employees on the college premises, or in conjunction with any college sponsored activity or event, whether on or off campus. There shall be no transporting or use of recreational drugs or alcohol while traveling with any college athletic team by anybody in the official traveling party. The college will impose sanctions on students and employees who violate this policy, according to the Student Code of Conduct (for students) and the appropriate bargaining agreement (for employees).
- E. Coaches and athletes represent the college, the athletic department and the college community. The college expects appropriate conduct by everyone in the official traveling party.
- F. When lodging is involved, the college will take care of room charges only. Telephone, pay TV or other costs are the responsibility of the occupants of the room. Any room damages shall be the responsibility of the occupant. Violators will not be allowed to participate in any further practices or contests and a hold shall be placed on the students' records until full restitution is received.

Tobacco

All college buildings are tobacco free. The use of all tobacco products are prohibited by athletes on any of our athletic fields or during any athletic event as per NJCAA and Minnesota College Athletic Conference rules and regulations.

History: 01.27.15 Adopted