

## **ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES COMPETITION POSITION STATEMENT**

### **Bagley Junior and Senior High School** ***“Pursuing Educational Excellence for All”***

Welcome to Bagley Flyers Athletic Activities. Our Athletic program is a part of our total education program, providing experiences for physical, intellectual, social and moral development. Competition, teamwork, sportsmanship and winning are all balanced as a part of the program. Participants and coaches are encouraged to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship, skills training and teamwork prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of the program.

Academic achievement and graduation should be the number one priority of all students. While athletics are an important and rewarding part of high school experiences, it is understood that family and academics come before athletics.

### **Main Points**

- Good Attendance – Student Athletes are expected to be in every class and on time daily. Any kind of detention – lunch, ISS, OSS means you cannot practice or play in a game that day. (Page 3)
- Passing Classes – You are required to pass (and be continuously passing) all your classes to stay eligible to play in a game/meet. (Page 3)
- Playing Time (all levels) – Based on ability, attitude, attendance, and eligibility status. (Page 2)
- Vaping, drinking, and smoking are all chemical violations that will lead to ineligibility and possible dismissal from the team. (Page 4)
- There should be a mutual respect that is earned by both coaches and players. (Page 2 & 5)
- Questions/concerns should first be brought by the athlete to the coach before parents/guardians talk to the coach. From there it would go next to the Activities (Athletic) Director. DO NOT confront a coach before, during or after a game or during a practice. Arrange a time to meeting/call prior to talking about the issue. (Page 6)

### **Athletic Philosophy:**

*Encourage all student athletes to develop leadership skills, practice sportsmanship and demonstrate personal and team excellence through athletic competition.*

*Bagley School District #162 is a member of the Minnesota State High School League and has resolved to adopt the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of said League and all amendments thereto as the same as are published in the latest edition of the League's Official Handbook or as appears on the League's website, as the minimum standards governing participation in said League-sponsored activities.*

## Student Athlete Resolution

As a student athlete in the Bagley School District, I will:

- Treat all people with respect at all times and require the same from fellow student athletes;
- Be a student first and commit to getting the best education I can;
- Not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of sexual or racial nature, taunting, boastful celebrations or other actions that demean individuals or the sport;
- Treat contest officials with respect and accept their judgment;
- Remember participation in sports is a privilege, not a right, and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field/court;
- Play the game according to the rules;
- Live up to the standards of fair play; be open minded; always willing to listen and learn;
- Demonstrate concern for others; never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to myself or others;
- Exhibit self-respect in manner and dress when representing our school;

### Expectations for Participation

It is expected that all student-athletes, coaches and fans representing Bagley High School will show respect, demonstrate a good attitude and display appropriate behavior towards fellow student-athletes, coaches, referees and fans.

Bagley High School offers a variety of different levels of play, depending on the sport and participation. These levels include: Junior High, C Team, Junior Varsity and Varsity levels.

Each specific sport's coaches will determine the level of play that best meets the needs of the various levels of play and the individual student-athletes. Factors that will be considered in determining a participant's level of play, include:

- **skill level and aptitude to develop necessary skills**
- **ability to effectively play specific positions**
- **understanding of specific sports skills/strategies and teamwork**
- **effort, attitude and being coachable in practice and competitions**
- **practice attendance**
- **grade level will be considered but not as the determining factor**
- **academic eligibility status**
- **remaining in "good standing" per MSHSL and Bagley School District policies**

**Junior High Level** – at this level the focus is geared toward every participant having the opportunity to play provided they meet the "Expectations for Participation". The emphasis is primarily on skill development, teamwork, good sportsmanship, and life-time sports.

**C Team/Junior Varsity** – at this level, participants begin to play based on skill and ability in addition to the "Expectations for Participation". Coaches will be the final decision regarding playing time. Cuts are possible at this level by the coaching staff with the agreement of the AD.

**Varsity** – this level is the highest level of participation for athletes provided they meet the "Expectations for Participation". Although all athletes are highly valued by their teams, actual playing time will vary greatly throughout the course of a season. Coaches will be the final decision regarding playing time. It is expected that participants will communicate with their coaches first, if they have any concerns or questions. This must occur before a parent meeting would be scheduled with the Athletic Director or proceeding with a grievance through the chain-of-command. Cuts are possible at this level by the coaching staff with the agreement of the AD.

### STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Extracurricular athletic competition should promote high standards of ethics, sportsmanship, and the development of good character, as well as other important life skills. All student athletes will be expected to:

- Make satisfactory progress towards graduation;
- Abide by eligibility rules set forth by the Minnesota State High School League and Bagley High School;
- Attend school and all assigned class periods everyday and on time;
- Be a positive role model in school and the community as well as on the floor, field, court and in the stands.

#### **A. Academic Eligibility**

The following is a summary of regulations affecting participation in extra-curricular activities. Additional information is contained in the Official Handbook of the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL), a copy of which is available on the school website. These rules apply to all Bagley School activities whether sponsored by the MSHSL or not.

1. Students must maintain passing grades to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular Contests/activities.
2. All students will be academically monitored every two weeks. Students with a failing grade will be ineligible for competition but will be rechecked weekly.
3. Students who are academically ineligible should continue to participate in practices and/or rehearsals.
4. Academic Eligibility begins with a new start at the beginning of each school year. Eligibility does not carry over from one year to the next.

#### **B. Participation Requirements**

All student athletes must complete the following requirements before he/she is eligible to participate:

1. Have a current Physical form on file – (current within 3 years)
2. Completed MSHSL Health Questionnaire (when a physical is not required)
3. Signed MSHSL Eligibility form
4. Paid Activity Fee
5. Completed Emergency Card
6. Athletic Competition Position Statement/Insurance Form Signed

#### **C. Attendance**

Student athletes are expected to commit themselves to team membership, attendance at school, and practices/contests for the duration of the season. If this commitment is not fulfilled, the athlete's position on the team will be jeopardized.

1. Students shall follow the school attendance policy
  - a. If a student athlete receives an in-school and/or out of school suspension they are ineligible to participate in the same day practice or game. If a student receives his/her third (3rd) lunch detention and any subsequent lunch detentions during the current sport season, they will be ineligible to participate in the same day practice or game.
  - b. If student athletes are suspended from school, they are not to participate in games/contests or practices while the suspension is in force.
  - c. Students must be in school for four (4) consecutive class periods on the day of the competition/practice in order to compete in the game/contest, or participate in practice. Exceptions can be made with prior approval from the AD.
2. Student athletes are expected to attend all practices and games/contests unless excused by the coach.

- a. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach *in advance* of any situations absences from practice(s) and/or games/contests, other than absence from school. Failure to notify the coach in advance may result in disciplinary action depending on the nature and frequency. \*\*
3. Student athletes absent from practices or games/contests due to mandatory participation in family activities will not be penalized. However, the position held by the student athlete may be filled by other players and can be reclaimed through individual effort and team play, at the coach's discretion.

Participating in extracurricular athletics is a privilege and is intended to be fun, while learning and/or improving on a skill. If attitude and/or behavior of the athlete is poor, the privilege to play can be taken away. It is the responsibility of the coaches to effectively communicate this to participants when addressing such behavior.

\*\*Coaches may include additional expectations, however, any disciplinary action taken must be consistent with all players. Coaches' expectations and consequences must also be established and communicated to student athlete and parents at the start of the season.

#### **D. Ineligible Student-Athletes Policies**

Students who are ineligible to compete because of failure to meet Academic Eligibility, Chemical Eligibility (MSHSL Bylaw 205), and/or Good Standing and General Eligibility Requirements (MSHSL Bylaw 206) are encouraged to attend practice per MSHSL regulations.

1. Students who are serving a suspension from competition will not be permitted to:
  - a. Travel with the team to away competitions
  - b. Sit on the team bench for either home or away contests
  - c. Be dismissed from school early to travel with the team.
  - d. Receive any travel accommodations (hotel rooms, meals, admission) cost paid for by the school district
  - e. Be involved in team competition awards presentations during the suspension period

Note – a student-athlete cannot serve a game suspension violation while they are not considered in good standing and in attendance at school. A student who is serving an out of school or in-school suspension, or a 3<sup>rd</sup> or subsequent noon detention would not be eligible to enter a game on that date and therefore could not serve a MSHSL game suspension violation. All

#### **E. Category II Eligibility**

Students who participate in MSHSL defined Category II activities will be ineligible for 1 event if they are found to be in violation of MSHSL policies.

#### **F. District Investigations of Alleged Violations**

District #162 is committed to adhering to the policies and procedures of the governing bodies of all of our activities. The District will investigate all credible information that is received.

#### **PARENT EXPECTATIONS**

Young people need to know that respect, fairness and responsibility are lifetime values, taught through athletics and activities, these are the principles of good sportsmanship:

- To prevent violent action towards officials, judges, coaches, opponents and spectators.
- To decrease the emphasis on just winning and losing.
- To promote ethics, respect and character in all walks of life.
- To promote the ideal of intrinsic rewards of athletics and activities.
- To learn the attitudes necessary for responsible behavior.

Tips for Parents

- Be supportive of coaches
- Teach Respect for Authority
- Let the Coach do the Coaching but you can do some of the Teaching
- Help your Children learn through Failure
- Get to know the Coach
- Listen to your Child, but stay Rational
- Be Mindful of your Role as a Role Model
- Show Unconditional Love – Win or Lose

**Always keep in mind – Sportsmanship is Everyone’s Responsibility**

## **COACHING EXPECTATIONS**

Coaches have the responsibility to teach the values associated with discipline, teamwork, commitment, accountability, leadership and organizational skills. These opportunities to teach occur throughout the sports season as students observe, listen and internalize these lessons.

- Treat all student athletes with respect, helping each one to develop their skills;
- Accept, and teach our athletes to accept, officials’ decisions and not to indicate any inappropriate displeasure, verbally or non-verbally (i.e.: gestures);
- Not discuss or comment on a student athletes’ talent/skill or lack thereof with other student athletes or members of the community;
- Provide positive instruction and do not put-down, yell or use abusive statements toward athletes, remembering that students learn from receiving positive support and role modeling;
- Use respectful language at all times and not use profanity that is casual or directed at any individual. Expect the same from student athletes;
- Discipline student athletes in a positive manner, using constructive communication skills prior to training activities as punishment to extinguish undesirable behavior;
- Outline expectations for participation, along with consequences at the beginning of each season and during the parent/student orientation meeting;
- Provide a safe practice and competitive environment for our student athletes;
- Listen respectfully to concerns brought to my attention by parents/guardians of our student athletes;
- Be conscientious of the issues of body image;
- Not use physical actions, such as pushing or throwing objects, to discipline or exhibit displeasure;
- Respect the student athletes’ responsibilities to their academics and other school, community and family activities;
- Be knowledgeable about the rules which govern the eligibility of our student athletes and apply them as intended;
- Encourage student athletes to participate in other sports/activities/competitions throughout the school year; and,
- All coaches will support other coaches and their sports or activities.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY**

An athletic orientation meeting will take place prior to the beginning of each sports season. It is requested that all students planning to participate in any extra-curricular activities offered through ISD #162 to attend this meeting along with a parent or guardian. If the student and/or parent are unable to attend at the scheduled time, they are required to complete the paperwork process and be knowledgeable of and abide by the policies and procedures as set forth by the MSHSL and Bagley School District.

All students and parents will be required to read the Athletic Competition Position Statement, sign and return the acknowledgement section of the code to the Athletic Director. All signed acknowledgement forms will be kept on file in the Athletic Director’s office for the entire school year. Students/Parents will need to sign a new form for each year of participation. No student will be allowed to participate in any team activities until the signed acknowledgement is returned to the coach.

## **GRIEVANCES**

In the event that a student-athlete/parent/guardian has a concern or complaint, the chain of command shall be followed. The chain of command is as follows:

COACH/HEAD COACH → ATHLETIC DIRECTOR → PRINCIPAL →  
SUPERINTENDENT → SCHOOL BOARD

The first step for a complaint is for the student-athlete to meet with the coach. At this time, the coach will initiate the Chain of Command Checklist that will assist in reaching a resolution to the complaint. If this meeting does not result in a resolution, the parent/guardian and student-athlete would request a meeting with the coach. If the complaint is not resolved at this point, then chain of command listed above shall be followed. Reasonable time periods, such as 24 hours, should be allocated to allow for resolutions to take place at each level.

Individuals with a complaint will only be permitted to represent their own concerns/student-athlete regarding an issue during meeting(s) relating to the complaint.

Any person(s) who has a complaint concerning extracurricular programs, or alleges that the school district is not complying with this policy or any actions prohibited by this policy, shall present the complaint to the Athletic Director.

If the Athletic Director finds that the complaint is justified, he/she shall initiate action to rectify the complaint. This may include consulting with administration and coaching staff.

If the Athletic Director finds that the complaint is not justified, he/she shall so notify the complainant in person or in writing.

Whether found to be valid or invalid all complaints will remain on file until the end of the season/year. At the end of the season/year, the Athletic Director will evaluate the coaches and valid complaints will become part of the permanent record; invalid complaints will be discarded.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the findings of the designated official, an appeal may be made to the Board of Education. The appeal must be requested in a written communication to the Superintendent of Schools.

### **Bagley School District #162**

#### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

**Bagley Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, national origin, religion, disability, receipt of public assistance, marital status, and age in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities in compliance with Title VI and VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments to the Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.**

## Student Athlete Resolution

Please read each of the following statements and check off on it if you agree to comply with these rules.

**As a student athlete in the Bagley School District, I will:**

- ☐ Treat all people with respect at all times and require the same from fellow student athletes.
- ☐ Attend school and all assigned class periods every day and not be tardy.
- ☐ Always put forth effort, have a good attitude and be coachable in practice and competitions.
- ☐ Be at practice every day except for obvious reasons – illness, family excuse, etc. (You will not be allowed to practice or play a game on a day you were in ISS, OSS, or Lunch Detention.)
- ☐ Not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort, including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of sexual or racial nature, taunting, boastful celebrations or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- ☐ Treat contest officials with respect and accept their judgment. (They know the game better than you do, but will still make an occasional mistake.)
- ☐ Remember participation in sports is a privilege, not a right, and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor, on and off the field/court.
- ☐ Play the game according to the rules.
- ☐ Remain in “good standing” per MSHSL and Bagley School District policies.

I the undersigned have received and read the Bagley School Athletic Competition Position Statement for the 2025-2026 school year.

Print Student-Athlete’s Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Players can be cut from the team for not following these statements.**

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*Signed Parent Pledge*

*As a parent, I acknowledge that I am a role model. I will remember that school athletics and activities are an extension of the classroom, offering learning experiences for students. I must show respect for all players, coaches, spectators, officials and support groups. I will participate in cheers that support, encourage and uplift the teams involved. I understand the spirit of fair play and that good sportsmanship is expected by our school, our conference and the MSHSL.*

## Parents/Guardians Resolution

Please read each of the following statements and check off on it if you agree to comply with these rules.

**We are trying to teach our athletes the idea of respect, fairness, hard work, responsibility, priorities, success and failure. These are all lifetime values that help us learn how to handle different situations throughout life.**

As parents/guardians you are a role model for your child and what you say in public and at home goes a long way in teaching these values. Please support your child and the coaches in this process.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Be a role model of good sportsmanship – at home and at the games.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **During the game be respectful of officials, coaches, opposing fans and all the players. Let the officials officiate, the coaches coach and the players play. Everyone is trying to do their best.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **To decrease the emphasis on just winning and losing – much is learned from both.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Stay positive. Stress what your child and team did well. This is how you support your child and the team. Not by yelling at them during or after a game.**

I hereby accept my responsibility to be a model of good sportsmanship that comes with being the parent/guardian of a student involved in athletics and activities.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are yelling and being disruptive at a game, you will be asked to leave.**

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**Bagley School District #162 does not provide any type of health insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school. We encourage all families to have accident coverage on their children, prior to participation in any sports or school sponsored activity. If you feel your coverage is adequate, please sign the statement below.**

If you are interested in purchasing inexpensive accident insurance you may do so by contacting the high school office at 694-3120.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sport \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned, feel we have adequate insurance protection for our child while practicing or participating in School District #162 Sports.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Checklist of forms needed to be submitted to be eligible for participation:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have a current Physical form on file – (current within 3 years)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Completed MSHSL Health Questionnaire (when a physical is not required)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Signed Minnesota State High School League Eligibility form
- \_\_\_\_\_ Paid Activity Fee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Completed Emergency Card
- \_\_\_\_\_ Athletic Competition Position Statement/Insurance Form Signed