



New Richmond High School Athletic Packet

Students and Parents/Guardians:

This packet is for students interested in participating in one or more of the following extracurricular activities:

(Interscholastic Sports and/or Activities recognized by OHSAA and/or SBAAC or SOSL)

Academic Team	Cross Country	Softball	Tennis
Baseball	Football	Swimming	Wrestling
Basketball	Golf	Volleyball	
Cheerleading	Soccer	Track	

(Clubs/Organizations/Activities offered by New Richmond High School)

Student Council	Class Officers	Mock Trial
Drama/Theatre	Hi-Y Club	National Honor Society
SADD Club	Pep Band	Men's/Women's Choir
International Club	Ecology Club	Other Activities

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER AND THE NEXT PAGES CAREFULLY. It will help to inform students, parents/guardians of the procedures and steps necessary to participate in extracurricular activities.

Eligibility

The New Richmond Board of Education has adopted a "No Pass - No Play" policy for students who wish to participate in extracurricular activities. The policy states that students must meet the following requirements for **“unconditional eligibility”**: No "F"'s and a grade point average of at least a **1.5** for the preceding quarter. (i.e.: A student who wishes to participate in a fall activity (first quarter) must meet the standards of this policy for the fourth quarter of the preceding school year.) **Please note:** Semester average and yearly average have no effect on eligibility. Eligibility is determined by quarter grade point average. Also, summer school courses cannot be used to remove deficiencies in order to gain eligibility.

Students may apply for **“conditional eligibility”**. If a student receives a failing grade for only one course in the preceding quarter and/or has attained a minimum grade point average of 1.0 during that quarter, he/she may petition the Athletic Director/Dean of Students for “conditional eligibility”. This is his/her choice and can be chosen if the student wishes to participate in the quarter affected by eligibility.

“Conditional eligibility” requires the student to attend two study tables per week for the quarter and be monitored on a weekly basis for eligibility in order to participate. Any violation of these conditions will result in ineligibility.

Emergency Medical Authorization Form

Parents/guardians of all students are required by law to complete and sign the **Emergency Medical Authorization** form in this packet. **This form is very important!** It indicates the procedure the school should follow in the event of a medical emergency involving their child. The coach/advisor keeps this form with him/her at practices, games, or activities. Please fill out the attached form and return to the coach/advisor.

Insurance

Students who participate in extracurricular activities at New Richmond High School are required to have insurance that covers them for injuries. This can be school insurance or other insurance carried by the parents/guardians. School insurance applications are available from the coach, advisor, the Athletic Director/Dean of Students, or in the general office. Parents/guardians must indicate the name of the insurance company that provides coverage for their son/daughter/ward on the form attached to this letter. It is incumbent upon our school district to notify students and parents that anyone who participates in activities/sports does expose himself/herself to the risk of serious injury, including but not limited to sprains, fractures, brain damage, paralysis or even death. In accordance with law, the student and parents/guardians must sign and return the attached **Acknowledgment of Warning Form** and the **Parent Release Form**.

Physical Examinations (Required for Interscholastic Sports, Cheerleading, and some extracurricular activities such as band and theatre)

Physical Exams are required each year for participants in interscholastic athletics, cheerleading and some extracurricular activities such as band and theatre. The physical exam form must be completed and signed by a physician, the parent/guardian, and the student-athlete. It is then returned to the coach or the Athletic Director and kept on file in the Athletic Director's office for one year from the date of the examination. **Please note:** This form must be completed and returned before any candidate for a team may participate in any practice. **The physical exam is valid for one year from the date of the examination.**

Student Handbook

Every student receives a **Student Handbook**. It contains the rules and regulations for participation in extracurricular activities at New Richmond High School. It also explains the consequences if a rule is violated. Violations of board adopted rules and policies may jeopardize a student's participation in extracurricular activities.

Communication Guide

Included in this packet is a **Communication Guide**. This guide has been developed to help students, parents/guardians, coaches, advisors, and administrators to communicate more effectively. It includes the steps you should take if parents have concerns about their child. We ask that parents observe the chain of command if they elect to pursue any concerns. After reading the communication guide, please sign and return the last page of this section to the coach/advisor.

Drug-Free Pledge

In an effort to promote a drug-free environment for our students, this year we are requesting that those students who participate in extracurricular activities sign the drug-free pledge attached with this letter. Our purpose is to raise awareness among our student-participants that it is our expectation that they remain drug-free.

Clubs/Organizations and Team Rules

Each advisor and/or coach has expectations for the students who participate in their activity. These rules and policies are made available to the participants and their parents/guardians and a copy is kept on file in the Athletic Director/Dean of Students office.

Sports Awards Ceremony (For Interscholastic Sports and Cheerleading)

An awards ceremony is held at the conclusion of each sport season (fall, winter, spring). This is a ceremony to recognize and honor those student-athletes who have participated on one of the various sports teams for that season. Students will be recognized for team participation, individual accomplishments and/or high academic achievement while participating.

NCAA Clearinghouse Eligibility (For Interscholastic Sports)

For your convenience, we have included some facts about **NCAA Clearinghouse Initial Eligibility**. If your student-athlete is planning to enroll in college as a freshman and he/she wishes to participate in Division I or II intercollegiate athletics, this can be of help to you. The school counselors can give you further information and also answer any questions you may have about this process or visit the website to gather information. (www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)

OHSAA

New Richmond High School is a member of the **Ohio High School Athletic Association**. This association is the "governing body" for interscholastic sports participation in Ohio. As a member school, we must follow the Bylaws and Sports Regulations set forth in the **OHSAA** Athletic Handbook.

SBAAC and SOSL

In addition to our membership with the **OHSAA**, we are also a charter member of the **Southern Buckeye Athletic and Academic Conference (SBAAC)**, and in swimming, the **Southern Ohio Swim League (SOSL)**. The **SBAAC** includes the following schools: Batavia, Bethel, Blanchester, Clermont Northeastern, East Clinton, Felicity, Georgetown, Goshen, New Richmond, Western Brown, and Williamsburg. Note: There is an admission charge for some sports in the **SBAAC**. There are two divisions in the **SBAAC** and New Richmond is in the American Division. The **Southern Ohio Swim League (SOSL)** includes the following schools: Cincinnati Country Day, Greenfield McClain, New Richmond, Seven Hills, and Summit Country Day. There is an admission charge for the **SOSL** league diving and swimming championships.

Expectations for Parents/Guardians

Please complete the pages of this packet that need a signature and return them to your child's coach or advisor. We have put this packet together so that the pages you need to return are at the end. Please keep this letter and the other information for future reference.

We hope that this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Athletic Director/Dean of Students at 553-3191, ext. 3.

Sincerely,



Pat Hill
Athletic Director/Dean of Students

NCAA INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or II intercollegiate athletics, your initial-eligibility status must normally be determined by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. To be certified by the Clearinghouse you must:

1. Graduate from high school.
2. Earn a grade-point average of at least a 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale) There are 13 core courses that are required for NCAA certification. See the counselor for this information.
3. Earn a sum of at least 68 on the ACT or a combined score of at least 820 on the reentered SAT on a national test date.

Points To Remember:

1. The requirements for eligibility to participate at Division I differ from those required at Division II.
2. Students normally should register after completion of their junior year in high school and only after an informed judgment has been made as to the prospect's potential at the Division I or II level.
3. NCAA academic committees are vested with the authority to grant waivers of the initial-eligibility requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances in which a student's overall academic record warrants the waiver of the normal application of the legislation.
4. Initial-eligibility waivers must be filed by a NCAA institution on behalf of the student.
5. Correspondence or independent study classes may not be used to meet the 13 core-course requirements.
6. Courses taken in the eighth grade may not be used to satisfy the core curriculum requirements, regardless of the course content or level.
7. Students enrolling in a Division I institution may not use courses taken after high school graduation to meet core-curriculum requirements.
8. Students with disabilities may receive additional information regarding accommodations by contacting the high school guidance counselor.

If you have any questions about the certification process after talking to the high school counselors, please write to:

NCAA Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 4044
Iowa City, IA 52243-4044

COMMUNICATION GUIDE

We are very pleased that your child has chosen to participate in the interscholastic athletic program at New Richmond High School. The goal of the Athletic Department is to provide our student athletes with the best environment so that their sport experiences may be as rewarding as possible. We believe that this goal may not be realized without appropriate lines of communication available to all parties involved. This "Communication Guide" has been developed to help coaches, parents, administrators, and student-athletes communicate more effectively.

Communication You Should Expect From The Coach

- Philosophy of the Coach
- Expectations the coach may have for your student-athlete and the team
- Times and locations of all practices and contests and any changes in that schedule as far in advance as possible
- Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, eligibility, attendance, out-of-season conditioning, etc.
- Procedure that will be followed should your child become injured during participation (practice or contest)
- Athletic Code of Conduct and any additional rules that may affect your child's participation.
- Requirements to earn a letter
- Disposition of lost/outstanding equipment at the end of the season

Communication The Coach Expects From Parents And Athletes

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach **first**
- Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance of the conflict
- Special needs of the student-athlete, i.e., physical limitations that may not be obvious to the coach

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with the Coach

- The treatment of your child mentally and physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior

As your child becomes involved in the various athletic programs of New Richmond High School, it is our hope that he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that things may not always go as your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be desirable (in fact, encouraged) to clear up the issues and avoid any misunderstanding.

Concerns Not Appropriate To Discuss with A Coach

- Playing time/position assignment for your child
- Team strategy/play calling
- Matters concerning other student-athletes

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. It is imperative that certain matters be left to the discretion of the coach.

Procedure to follow if you have a concern to discuss with a Coach

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and a parent. Such a meeting is encouraged when necessary. It is important that both parties have a clear understanding of the other person's position. Each should be willing to listen. The following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue:

- Contact the coach the day after a contest to set up an appointment (see list of school phone numbers on back) Please, do not approach the coach with concerns before, during or after a ball game.
- If the coach cannot be reached after a reasonable period of time, call the Athletic Director. An appointment with the coach will be arranged for you.

- **Important.** Please do not attempt to confront a coach before, during, or after contest or practice session. These can be emotional times for both the parents and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution and, in fact, often cause more harm than good.

The Next Step

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution? Although total agreement may not always be reached, most often such a meeting does afford the opportunity for productive discussion and better understanding. If the parent desires further communication, please call the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. The appropriate next step will be determined.

Chain Of Command

The New Richmond High School in conjunction with the Athletic Department follows the chain of command listed below. We ask that you observe this order if you elect to pursue any concern you may have with regard to the athletic program.

1. The Coach
2. Athletic Director
3. Principal
4. Superintendent
5. Board of Education

We hope that the information provided in this "Communication Guide" will help you and your child have a rewarding and enjoyable athletic experience.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS OF THE NEW RICHMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
553 - 3191 EXT. 3

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
553 - 3191

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
553 - 2616

SPORTS HOTLINE
553 - 3191 EXT. 3

Student Name _____
(Please Print)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COMMUNICATION GUIDE

I have received and read the Communication Guide set forth by the New Richmond High School. I understand that if I have concerns about my child, I need to contact the coach or advisor at the appropriate time. I also understand that if issues do not seem to be resolved, I then need to contact the Athletic Director/Dean of Students with my concerns.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Student Signature (Date)

Student Name _____
(Please Print)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF WARNING FORM

Catastrophic Insurance

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) provides catastrophic insurance to cover all athletes playing high school athletics as a member of a junior high or high school team. However, parents are required to provide either school insurance or some other policy which will cover athletic injuries for the first \$25,000 of medical expenses. For this reason, we request that you complete the following statement for each son or daughter you have participating in high school athletics.

Acknowledgment of Warning By Parents

I/We do hereby acknowledge that I/we have been fully advised, cautioned and warned by the proper administrative and coaching personnel of New Richmond Exempted Village School District that my/our child may suffer serious injury, including but not limited to sprains, fractures, brain damage, paralysis or even death, by participating in the previously listed activities. Notwithstanding such warnings and with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of serious injury to my/our child which may result, I/we give my/our consent for participating in the previously listed activities.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Name of Insurance Company Providing Coverage

Acknowledgment of Warning By Student

I hereby acknowledge that I have been properly advised, cautioned and warned by the proper administrative and coaching personnel of the New Richmond Exempted Village School District that by participating in the previously listed activities, I am exposing myself to the risk of serious injury, including but not limited to, the risk of sprains, fractures, and ligament and/or cartilage damage which could result in a temporary or permanent, partial or complete, impairment in the use of my limbs, brain damage, paralysis or even death. Having been so cautioned, and warned, it is still my desire to participate in the activity, and should I choose to participate in the activity, I hereby further acknowledge that I do so with full knowledge and understanding of the risk of serious injury to which I am exposing myself by participating in the activity.

Student Signature (Date)

Student Name _____
(Please Print)

PARENT/STUDENT RELEASE FORM

I/We, the undersigned, being the parents/guardians of (child's name) _____, do hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the New Richmond Exempted Village School District Board of Education, its employees, agents or anyone acting on its behalf, from any and all liability, claim, demand, action or right of action, of whatever kind or nature, either in law or equity, arising from or by reason of any bodily injury, personal injury or mental injury, known or unknown, including death, resulting from, or to result from (child's name) _____ participation in sports and/or any other extracurricular activity on behalf of or in the name of the New Richmond Exempted Village School District Board of Education.

I/We hereby assume full responsibility for and risk of bodily injury, personal injury or mental injury or death due to my/our son/daughter/ward's participation in sports and/or other extracurricular activities on behalf of or in the name of the New Richmond Exempted Village School District Board of Education.

I/We expressly agree that this release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Ohio or any other state in which said student may be injured and that if any portion of this release is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, nevertheless, continue in full force and effect.

I/We further state that I/we have carefully read the above release and know the contents of same and sign this release as my/our own free act.

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Parent/Guardian Signature (Date)

Student Signature (Date)

Student Name _____
(Please Print)

HEALTHY COMPETITION PLEDGE

Performance-enhancing drugs

Yes, I support drug-free athletics and believe that athletic goals should be achieved through hard work and dedication. Performance-enhancing drugs destroy the body and undermine the fairness of competition. I refuse to take performance-enhancing drugs and will discourage others from using them. I also understand that this is a violation of the OHSAA bylaws and pledge to uphold this rule.

Drugs and drug abuse

Yes, as an athlete at New Richmond High School, I agree to abide by the rules and policies regarding the use of drugs and/or drug abuse as stated in the Student Handbook and in my team rules. I understand that the use and/or abuse of drugs can have serious physical and emotional effects that can be detrimental to my family, my team, my school, and me.

Removal from participation

Yes, I understand that any violations of the rules and policies set forth in the Student Handbook and in my team's rules may result in removal from extracurricular activities.

Yes, I accept and pledge to stay drug-free and promote healthy competition.

Student's Signature (Date)