

4. **Membership:** The Athletic Council shall be composed of the:

- a. Jr. – Sr. High School Principal
- b. Athletic Director
- c. All Head Coaches

The Jr. – Sr. High School Principal shall serve as the chairman.

The Athletic Director shall serve as the secretary.

5. **Meetings:** The Athletic Council may meet in October, February, and May.

The secretary (Athletic Director) shall notify all members of the date, time, and place for all meetings. The meetings are open to all coaches, or interested parties who may present athletic items for discussion. The chairman may call special meetings. The chairman may cancel a meeting by notifying all committee members if there is not sufficient business to warrant a meeting.

6. **Quorum:** A quorum of all meetings of this council shall consist of a majority of the members.

#### D.

##### **State Athletic Association**

Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School is a member in good standing of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA), which serves as the authorized representative of the Department of Education in the supervision and control of the interscholastic athletic activities of all schools in the state. The purpose of this organization is to promote, develop, direct, protect and regulate amateur interscholastic athletic relationships between member schools and to stimulate fair play, friendly rivalry and good sportsmanship among contestants, schools and communities throughout the state.

As a member of the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School agrees to abide by all of the state by-laws, rules and regulations with special emphasis placed on those governing eligibility, age limitation, enrollment and attendance, scholarship, residence, transfers, recruiting, amateurism, and the conduct, character and discipline of athletes.

#### E.

##### **Midwest Athletic Conference**

Frontier High School is a member of the Midwest Conference. The Midwest Conference was organized in September 1955. Charter members of the Conference: Brook High School, Brookston High School, Camden High School, Fowler High School, Kentland High School, Monon High School, Royal Center High School, and Wolcott High School. Present membership includes: Caston High School, Frontier High School, North White High School, Pioneer High School, South Newton High School, Tri-County High School, West Central High School, and Winamac High School.

The purpose of this conference shall be to encourage member schools to take an active part in all desirable school activities, to stimulate good public relations between schools and communities and to promote good sportsmanship. The constitution is to govern both boys and girls activities.

In each sport, the Midwest Conference will recognize team and/or individual champions. In sports where individual champions are not named, the conference will establish All-Conference Teams, comprised of individuals, worthy of special recognition. Team championships will be awarded in the following:

**Boys Sports:** Cross Country, Football, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, Baseball, and Golf

**Girls Sports:** Cross Country, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, and Track

The Midwest Conference will provide an All-Sports Trophy to the school(s) whose boys and girls team have accumulated the most points, as determined by final standings in each of the respective sports, at the conclusion of each school year. Points are awarded in the following manner: 8 points for first; 7 points for second; 6 points for third; 5 points for fourth; 4 points for fifth; 3 points for sixth; 2 points for seventh, and 1 point for eighth.

### **Requirements for Participation**

A. **To be eligible for interscholastic athletics - a high school student must meet the following IHSAA regulations:**

**1. Enrollment:** See IHSAA Rule C-12-1-2-3

a. In order to be eligible for athletic competition during any semester, a student must have enrolled in some high school within the first 15 school days, of the semester in which the contest occurs.

b. After enrollment in the 9th grade for 15 or more school days, students shall be eligible for no more than four (4) consecutive years, or the equivalent. (e.g. 12 semesters in a tri-semester plan, etc.)

c. After enrollment in the 9th grade, if a student is injured or contracts an illness which necessitates the student's complete withdrawal from the school or prohibits enrollment in the school for that semester, and the student does not receive any academic credit for that semester, then the semester shall not count as one of 8 consecutive semesters of enrollment.

**2. Age:** See IHSAA Rule 4 - 1

a. A student who is or shall be twenty (20) years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport shall be ineligible for interschool athletic competition in that sport; a student who is nineteen (19) years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for interschool athletic competition in that sport.

**3. Physical Examinations:** See IHSAA Rule 3 - 10

a. Between April 1st and student's first practice in preparation for interschool athletic participation:

1. The student shall have had a physical examination by or shall provide certification from a physician holding an unlimited license to practice medicine

2. The parent or guardian shall give written consent for such participation unless the student is emancipated; and

3. The parent or guardian shall consent to the disclosure by the school, the IHSAA, of all requested detailed financial (athletic or otherwise), scholastic and attendance records of the school, including records which may concern or be related to the student unless the student is emancipated which event the student shall give such consent. The consent and Release Certificate shall be on file in the Principal's office prior to the student's first practice. Such certificate may suffice for the entire school year. This rule cannot be waived.

**4. Scholarship:** See IHSAA Rule 18 - 1

a. To be eligible scholastically, students must have received passing grades at the end of their last grading period in school in at least five full credit subjects or the equivalent and must be currently enrolled in at least five full credit subjects or the

equivalent. Nine-week grades take precedence. Two semesters of the state required physical education course may be counted as a full credit subject for eligibility purposes even though a full credit is not granted by the Department of Education. See page 23 for additional requirements set by the Frontier School Corporation.

**5. Transfer:** See IHSAA Rule 19. You will be ineligible if:

- a. You transfer from one school to another for athletic reasons.
  - b. You were not enrolled in your present high school your last semester or at a junior high school from which your high school receives its students unless:
    1. You are entering the 9th grade for the first time.
    2. You are transferring from a school district or territory with a bona fide move by your parents.
    3. You are a ward of the court.
    4. You are an orphan.
    5. You transfer to reside with a parent.
    6. Your former school closed.
    7. Your former school is not accredited by the state accrediting agency in the state where the school is located.
    8. Your transfer was pursuant to school board mandate.
    9. You enrolled and/or attended in error, a wrong school.
    10. You transferred from a correctional school.
    11. You are emancipated.
    12. You are a foreign exchange student attending under an approved NAASSP program.
    13. You did not participate in any contests as a representative of another school during the preceding 365 days.
    14. You return to an IHSAA member school from a non-member school and reside with the same parent(s) or guardian(s).
- NOTE: An athlete is automatically ineligible when transferring from another school. The athlete must go through the IHSAA transfer process to become eligible.**
- 6. Amateurism:** See IHSAA Rule 5.
- You will be ineligible if:
- a. You play under an assumed name.
  - b. You accept money or merchandise directly or indirectly from athletic participation.
  - c. You sign a professional contract in that sport.

**B. To be eligible for interscholastic athletics - a high school student must meet the following school regulations:**

1. **Parent Acknowledgment of Athletic Policies:** Upon entering high school or at the time a student tries out for an athletic team, he/she will be presented with this handbook and all the necessary forms and information for participating in athletics. Each student, parent or guardian shall read all of the enclosed material and certify that they understand the athletic eligibility rules, Code of Conduct and policies of the school system. This signed document will be filed in the Athletic Director's office.
2. **Risk of Participation/Intent to Warn:** By the very nature of the athletic activity, participants are at risk of physical injury. No matter how careful the athlete and coach

are, no matter how many precautions are taken, the risks cannot be eliminated. It can be reduced but never eliminated. The risk of injury includes minor injuries such as broken bones, dislocations and muscle strains. The risk also includes catastrophic injuries such as permanent paralysis or even death. It is important everyone understand these risks, and that athletes follow all safety directions from their coaches because they are established to reduce the risk of injury.

It is not our intent to alarm anyone, but we have a legal and moral obligation to inform you that such injuries do occur.

**3. Drug Testing Consent Form:** The School Corporation encourages all students to participate in extra-curricular programs of the school, but believes the opportunity for such participation is not an absolute right. It is a privilege offered to students who meet both the scholastic and the physical conditions of eligibility. One such condition shall be agreement by the student to submit to testing for the use of drugs and alcohol, if selected, in accordance with the drug-testing program. The program shall apply to all students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) who are participating in athletics. A complete copy of this policy is found at the end of this handbook.

**4. Insurance:** The school system **does not** carry insurance to cover student athletic injuries. Parents will need to sign the acknowledgment stating they have purchased school insurance or possess a family insurance plan.

**5. Emergency Medical Authorization:** Each athlete's parents shall complete an Emergency Medical Authorization card giving permission for treatment by a physician or hospital when the parent(s) are not available. The card will be kept in the medical kit for availability at all practices and contests.

**6. Financial Obligations & Equipment:** All athletes are responsible for the care and security of equipment issued to them. School furnished equipment is to be worn only for contests, practices or other times designated by the coach.

All equipment not returned in good condition at the end of the season will be subject to a financial penalty.

### **Code of Conduct for Athletes**

- A. School Philosophy:** In order to have a positive atmosphere in our athletic program. **ALL** of our athletes must attempt self-discipline. It has been our observation that the athlete who lacks self-discipline, can be disruptive to the total program, and thus to other individuals who make up this program. Participation in athletics at Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School is a privilege which carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility and sacrifice. Realizing the athlete represents the student body, school and community, it is our athlete's responsibility to conduct themselves on and off the "field of competition" in a manner that is becoming to themselves, their family, the student body and the community. Therefore, the coaches have set up certain guidelines they believe are necessary, but fair, for our athletes to meet in order to be a part of the athletic program at Frontier. None of these guidelines are meant to be a form of punishment, but rather a means to become a more responsible person on and off the "field of competition". The coaching staff will attempt to help each athlete in every way possible to meet the following guidelines, but the real efforts must come from the athlete.

- B. Rules & Regulations:** Athletes participating on school teams are required to live according to the rules listed below, all of which are in affect during the entire year. **ABSTINENCE IS A TWELVE (12) MONTH RESPONSIBILITY.** The

following rules apply to athletes, managers, and cheerleaders:

1. No student shall consume or be in possession of alcoholic beverages.
2. No student shall use or be in possession of tobacco in any form.
3. No student shall knowingly possess, use transmit, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, stimulate, depressant, marijuana, steroids, or any substance represented to be any of the above-or possess, use or transmit paraphernalia for use of such substances. (Use of authorized drugs as prescribed by a registered physician shall not constitute a violation of this rule).
4. No student shall attend a place where alcoholic beverages are being served or consumed by minors unless accompanied by his/her parent. Attendance at parties where alcohol and drugs appear is strictly prohibited and all athletes are expected to leave the party immediately.
5. Every student must be at school for the **full day** to be eligible to participate in practice or a contest. If the athlete or manager is absent any part of the day for personal illness, he/she will not be allowed to practice or participate in a contest that day. Exceptions are such things as: medical appointments, or pre-arranged absences with a school administrator. The school must have a medical note signed by the doctor in order to practice or participate in a scheduled contest the day of a medical appointment.

**NOTE:** Appointments should not last more than half the school day. When appointments are scheduled in the morning, students need to be in school during the afternoon. When appointments are scheduled in the afternoon, students need to be in school during the morning. Special appointments and circumstances need to be pre-approved by the Principal and/or Athletic Director. However, the student must have a signed doctor's note saying they can participate if they miss a full day that is pre-approved.

6. Every student shall attend the practices and contests of his/her squad unless excused by his/her coach.
7. Every student shall adhere to the curfew time set up by his/her coach.
8. Every student shall maintain good citizenship in and out of school.
9. Every student is expected to adhere to local and state laws, IHSSAA regulations, Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School Student Handbook, Frontier Athletic Handbook and his/her coach's rules.

**C. IHSSAA Rule 8 - 1: Conduct, Character and Discipline states:**

"Contestant's conduct, in and out of school, shall be such as (1) not to reflect discredit upon their school or the Association, or (2) not to create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in the school. It is recognized that principals by the administrative authority vested in them by their school corporation may exclude such contestants from representing their school.

**D. Code Enforcement:** Upon possible violations of the Frontier Athletic Code of Conduct, parents

will be called and a meeting will be set up to discuss violations with Administration, Parents, Coaches, and the Athlete. If parents can't attend, a Guidance Counselor will sit in for the parents. Possible violations of the Athletic Code of Conduct will be investigated by four methods. The identifications through any one of these methods are sufficient reason for the consequences of such an occurrence to be implemented. These methods include:

A. Notification to school official by verified police report or court action.

B. Self-admission of a violation by the student.

C. The determination of a “positive” test results from a random or subsequently required urinalysis.

D. Direct observation of violation by a member of the staff, the student group, or the administration.

Student athletes of Frontier Jr. – Sr. High School shall not possess, use, sell, give or otherwise transmit, or be under the influence of any drug, or counterfeit drug, the possession of which is prohibited by law. This includes narcotics, hallucinogenic drugs, alcohol, amphetamines, steroids, cocaine, or intoxicants of any kind. The use or possession of any tobacco product is also prohibited.

This policy will be subject to enforcement and/or disciplinary action by the athletic department and administration for twelve (12) months of the year. Additionally, once you become an athlete and sign the code of conduct, you are always considered an athlete and must adhere to the code of conduct throughout your Jr.-Sr. High School career. Offenses in violation of this policy is cumulative grade 7 through 12. Notwithstanding the consequences for violation of the Athletic Code which follows, the Athletic Director or other person designated by the Principal may exclude the student athlete from all athletic participation for one (1) calendar year for a violation which involves the selling or distributing of any quantity of illegal drugs, counterfeit drugs or controlled substances.

#### **E. Violations and Consequences for Code Violations:**

##### First Violation:

1. No athletic participation for one (1) calendar year from date of assessment of penalty, unless the parents agree to have the athlete participate in and complete assessment and education under an approved drug and alcohol counselor or other counseling if appropriate as determined by the administration at the cost of the parents.

2. Should the athlete agree to participate in counseling the student may reduce his/her first offense suspension by 50% of the contest season. If there is less than 50% of the contest remaining there will be a carry over into the next sport played including the following year so that the total exclusion is 50%. Suspensions will be based on the Varsity schedule. A player cannot play JV to shorten a suspension. If a player plays JV only, then the JV schedule will be used. If an athlete is in 2 recognized sports during the same sports season, the suspension will be 50% for each sport from the time of the infraction.

##### Second Violation:

Exclusion from all athletic participation for one (1) calendar year from date of assessment of penalty.

##### Third Violation:

Permanent suspension from all athletics for the remainder of his/her high school career.

#### **F.**

**Self-Referral by Student Athletes:** Student athletes may take advantage of a self-referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling, and assessment in regard to student athlete use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Voluntary referrals will result in 25% suspension of the contest season, instead of the 50% of the contest season.

1. Referral is allowed one (1) time in a student's four-year high school career (two-year junior high school).

2. Referral must be only by the athlete or a member of the immediate family and/or foster parent/guardian .

3. Referral must be previous to the first violation.
4. Referral cannot be used by athletes as a method to avoid consequences once a Code of Conduct rule is violated and a student has been identified as having violated one of the Code of Conduct rules.
5. Referral must be made to Coach, Athletic Director, Principal, teacher or counselor.

**G. Individual Coach's Rules:** Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director and Principal for these respective sports. These rules pertaining to a particular sport must be given by the coach in writing to all team members and explained fully at the start of the season. Penalties for violation of team rules will also be in writing and shall be administered by the coach. Copies of all additional team rules by coaches are on file in the athletic office.

**H. Violation of School Policies and IHSA Rule 8-1:** Any athlete who is declared truant will be ineligible for a period of one (1) week after the infraction is discovered. The Athletic Director and coach may deny any student athlete referred to the office for a school rule violation the privilege of participation in all athletic activities for a period as determined. Should the athlete and/or/parents wish, they may appeal following the Temporary Denial of Participation outlined below in Section K.

**I. Policy on Fighting in Interscholastic Sports:** No fighting or taunting will be permitted at any time during a contest. The coach shall enforce violation of this rule.

**J. Suspension/Appeal Procedure:** The following regulations shall be observed in the administration of the athletic program:

1. This handbook applies to all athletes at FRONTIER Jr. – Sr. High School. In addition to these policies each coach may develop additional rules for his/her team. These rules must be on file in the Athletic Director's office. Students are to be notified in writing of both the Athletic Handbook/Code of Conduct and rules by the coach.
2. The coach must administer reasonable disciplinary action for violation of these rules including suspension from the activity for a temporary period or removal from the activity altogether.
3. Violation of the Code of Conduct may result immediately in suspension or removal from the team by the coach. In these violations, the coach must follow the procedures as outlined in K and L below.
4. Violation of a coach's rule may result in suspension from the team only, however, before denying participation in the activity, the coach should communicate with the parents, discuss the situation with the student and administer other appropriate disciplinary action.

**K. Temporary Denial of Participation:**

1. Temporary denial is defined as any suspension less than a permanent denial of participation.
2. When a athletic director/coach denies participation of a student in an activity, the student must be informed of the intended action by completing form 1-DP. It is then the responsibility of the coach to discuss the situation with the student and then determine whether or not to deny the student participation. If the student is denied participation, the coach must complete form 2-DP.
3. The student may appeal the denial of participation within 72 hours of the

- action to an appeal board.
4. The appeal board shall consist of the Athletic Director, Assistant Principal, or Principal and two coaches. Such an appeal must be conducted within a mutually agreed upon time when school is in session. (In the event of school vacation, closings, holidays, an appeal will be held as soon as possible.)
  5. Procedures for conducting the appeal hearing are as follows:
    - a. The Athletic Director may serve as chairperson at the appeals committee. In the event that the Athletic Director is presenting the reasons for the denial of participation, the Assistant Principal or Principal shall serve as chairperson, along with 2 coaches.
    - b. The athletic director/coach who is denying participation will present the reasons for the denial.
    - c. The student and/or parents may then present evidence or reasons why the student should not be denied participation.
    - d. The student has the option of being represented at the appeal hearing; however, the hearing is not a legal process.
    - e. The appeal board shall make its decision within 24 hours of the hearing to either uphold, or repeal the denial of participation. The appeal board will only overrule the decision of the coach if it is "arbitrary and capricious".
    - f. During the appeal process the students shall attend practices but cannot participate in contests or performances of the group/team.
    - g. The decision of the appeal board will be based upon generally accepted preliminary procedures with a majority vote of the members of the appeals board necessary to take action.
    - h. The appeal board is responsible for notifying the student in writing of its decision and the reasons for the decision by using form 3-DP. A copy of the report shall go to the Jr. – Sr. High School Principal and the coach.
    - i. There is no provision for appeal beyond the appeal board in the case of a temporary denial of participation.

**L. Permanent Denial of Participation:**

1. If the student is to be permanently denied participation, the coach shall notify the student in writing on form 4-DP.
2. The appeal board will then conduct a hearing with the coach and student, if the student or parent requests a hearing concerning the possible permanent denial. If the student attends such hearing, the steps outlined in item K above shall be observed in conducting the appeal. However, at the conclusion of the hearing, the appeal board shall prepare a written recommendation to the Principal regarding the matter. It is then the responsibility of the Principal to either uphold denial, modify the denial or reinstate the student.
3. The Principal is responsible for evaluating the report of the appeal board and for rendering a decision within 24 hours after receipt of the record.
4. The Principal shall then notify the student, the coach, the appeal board and the Superintendent of his decision in writing by using form 5-DP.
5. During this appeal process, the student is denied participation until the appeal is completed.
6. The student may appeal the final decision to the Superintendent.



## **Scholastic Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Frontier Jr. -- Sr. High School, all students will be required to meet the following standards. These standard(s) shall include:

**A. Frontier Jr. -- Sr. High School Academic Requirements.**

All high school student athletes must meet the scholastic requirements of the state association which require that the athlete pass a minimum of five full credit subjects or the equivalent toward graduation during the immediately preceding grading period in order to be eligible the following grading period. In addition, student athletes must have and maintain a 1.67 grade point average (C-) for the nine (9) weeks. Jr. High students must pass six (6) courses out of the seven (7) that they take in order to be eligible for participation in athletics. All class periods will count as a full course. Junior High students will be required to participate in any and all study rules and guidelines.

Any student who has not made a passing score on all of the State-mandated testing and assessment tests shall be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity, including athletics. The Board believes a student who has not passed these tests should be using extra-curricular time to participate in one or more of the Corporation's programs for assisting students to pass the tests. However, if a parent believes that his/her child may be unduly affected by lack of participation in a particular activity, s/he may come to the school and sign a waiver, which will release the student from this eligibility rule and allow him/her to participate in the activity. The parent should be informed, prior to signing the waiver that State law does not allow a student to receive a high school diploma unless s/he has passed all of the State-mandated testing and assessment tests.

Changes of eligibility will become effective on report card day as reported to the IHSAA.

Note: This standard is higher than the IHSAA requirement, in that the second and fourth nine weeks grades will take precedence over the semester grades. The IHSAA requirement is that semester grades take precedence.

**B. Mid-Term Check of Grades**

Frontier Jr. -- Sr. High School athletes (both high school and junior high school) must maintain passing grades during the school year.

1. All student athletes' grades are to be checked at mid-term for deficiencies.
2. Junior high students should be passing six classes of their current schedule at this time.
3. High school students should be passing five classes of their current schedule at this time.

**C. Retention and Red Shirting:**

The Frontier Community Schools recognizes that participation in interscholastic athletics is a privilege and not a right. Fair competition and safety of participants are prime concerns of this school corporation.

The Frontier Community Schools does not allow the retention of any student who has successfully completed any grade, except upon the recommendation of the appropriate school personnel. Should any student, who has successfully completed the sixth grade, repeat any grade for reasons other than academic failure in circumvention of this policy, s/he will lose his/her last year of eligibility in high school athletics. The school board reserves the right to waive this rule for hardship cases. Such waiver will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## General Athletic Department Policies

- A. Dropping From Any Sport:** Quitting is an intolerable habit to acquire. A quitter may lose the privilege of participating in athletics. No athlete who is dropped from one team for disciplinary reasons, or "quits" shall be eligible to compete in another sport for that particular season. An athlete who quits during the season will be considered as an athletic code violation and subject to the punishment outlined therein. This does not apply to those athletes who quit prior to the first contest. Athletes cut from one sport may, however, try out for another sport providing they were not cut from the first sport for disciplinary reasons. On occasion however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed:
1. Consult with your immediate coach.
  2. Report your situation to the Athletic Director.
  3. Check in all equipment issued to you.
- B. Transferring Sports:** A student may not quit a sport once the contest season has begun, and go out for another sport during the same season. Prior to the contest season a student who attends a practice in one sport, and wishes to change sports (or attend open gyms) must have the consent of both coaches involved and the Athletic Director. No athlete may start another sport until the previous one has been completed. This procedure assures a smooth transfer, which is in the best interest of the student and athletic department.
- C. Transportation:** All athletes must travel to and from out-of-town athletic contests in transportation provided (or on rare occasions school approved) by the athletic department unless previous arrangements are made by the parents for exceptional situations with the coach.
1. Athletes will remain with their team and under the supervision of their coach when attending away contests.
  2. Athletes that miss the bus will not be allowed to participate in the contest unless there are extenuating circumstances.
  3. All regular school bus rules will be followed.
  4. Dress appropriately and in good taste.
- D. Grooming & Dress Policy:** A member of an athletic team is expected to be well-groomed. "He shows up best who shows off least". Appearance, expression and actions always influence people's opinions of athletes, the team and the school. Once you have volunteered to be a member of a team, you have made a choice to uphold certain standard expected of athletes in this community. The following rules will be adhered to by team members:
1. Hair styles are to be maintained in a neat and clean manner so as to present a positive image for both the team and the school. No moustaches, beards or unusual hairstyles.
  2. An athlete shall dress presentably at all times, on trips, assemblies, or banquets.
  3. Athletes will not be permitted to participate until deviations of the above rules are satisfactorily corrected.
- E. Attendance:** To be eligible to participate in practice or a contest, the athlete must be at school for the full day. If the athlete or manager is absent any part of the day for personal illness, he/she will not be allowed to practice or participate in a contest that day. Exceptions are such things as: medical appointments, or pre-arranged absences with a school administrator. The school must have a medical note signed by the Dr./or Dr. designee in order to practice or participate in a scheduled contest the day of a medical appointment.