

Northfield Norse Athletic Handbook for Student-Athletes

Excellence and Pride in Education and Athletics



INDEX

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page</u>
Norse Athletic Handbook for Student-Athletes	3
Athletic Statement	3
Athletic Philosophy and Mission	3
Athlete Defined	3
Athletic Program Profile	3
Eligibility	3
Academic-Athletic Eligibility	3
Academic-Athletic Eligibility Grades 5-8	4
What must be done before you start practice?	4
IHSAA Eligibility Rules for Students in Grades 9-12	5-6
Information for Athletes	7
A Note	7
Accident/Injuries	7
Athletic Season Defined	7
Attendance in School and Eligibility to Participate in Game Contests and Practices	7
Award Programs	7
Cell Phone & Social Networking Policy	7
Code of Conduct	7
College-Bound Athletes and Recruiting	8
Concerns to Discuss with Coaches	8
Conference Affiliations	8
Conflicts between Activities	8
Dress	8
Drug Testing	8
Elementary Participation	8
Equipment	8
Gymnasium Procedures	9
Insurance	9
Locker Rooms	9
Missing Practice/Doctor's Notes	9
Multiple Sport Athletes	9
Participation in Two Sports in One Season	9
Physicals & Summer Activities	9
Practices: Regular Vacation and School Closing	9
Quitting a Team	10
Scholarships (Athletic)	10
Study Tables	10
Suspensions via Due Process	10
Team Cutting Policies	10
Training Room	10
Transportation	10
Weight Room/Deck	10
Athletic Awards	12
Awards Given	12-13
General Award Policies	14
Award Programs	14

NORSE ATHLETIC HANDBOOK FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

PHILOSOPHY and OBJECTIVES

Philosophy

Athletics at Northfield Jr./Sr. High School contribute to the development of athletes toward maturity. Interscholastic competition must develop an athlete's attitudes of good sportsmanship, fair play, and a respect for the individual. Athletes must be taught to win graciously, lose honorably, give an effort that they will reflect upon with pride, and at all times, play according to the rules and spirit of the game and to accept any official's decision without anger or malice. The athletes must also be taught to respect and care for equipment that is issued to them and available for their own usage.

Objectives include:

- A. to Teach good playing and practice habits,
- B. to Teach good sportsmanship,
- C. to Teach respect for others,
- D. to Teach respect for all participants,
- E. to Teach respect for school property and equipment,
- F. to Teach athletes to always conduct themselves to reflect credit upon themselves, their teammates, and their school,
- G. to Teach all participants to seek to develop their individual abilities and to give their best efforts in all endeavors.

"ATHLETE" DEFINED

The Northfield Norse athlete is defined as, and includes, all young men and women who represent a team that engages in interscholastic competition and further includes cheerleaders, student managers, and statisticians.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PROFILE

Northfield High School supports 12 varsity sports that offer over 25 different teams to its students in grades 9 -12. There are also 14 Junior High squads for students in grades 5 and 8*. Student-athletes are coached by over 40 men and women and participate in over 400 athletic contests per year. Northfield High School is a member of the Three Rivers Conference (TRC), whose membership includes Maconaquah, Manchester, North Miami, Peru, Rochester, Southwood, Tippecanoe Valley, Wabash, and Whitko. Northfield Junior High School is a charter member of the Running Rivers Conference (RRC) with all the above schools participating in a regular season schedule and a conference tournament in the following team and individual sports: cross country, volleyball, basketball (boys & girls), wrestling, and track & field.

ELIGIBILITY

ACADEMIC/ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

1. Student-athletes must be enrolled at Northfield and pass five (5) full credit subjects each nine (9) weeks grading period in order to continue to participate as a team member.
2. Any sport that begins before the first nine (9) weeks grading period is completed will use the previous nine (9) weeks grades to determine athletic eligibility. However, after the second and fourth nine (9) weeks grading periods, semester grades take precedence over nine (9) weeks grades.
3. A student-athlete will be ineligible until eligibility requirements are met.
4. Student-athletes who become ineligible by IHSAA standards during a given grading period are prohibited from participating in interscholastic games, contests or events.

It is the policy of the athletic department to work closely with the academic progress of each participant. Students with failing grades may attend practices and or study table during periods of academic difficulty. Students not passing five (5) full credits are not permitted to tryout for a team. He and or she may tryout after securing eligibility and with the coach's permission.

GRADES 5 - 8 (ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY)

The academic requirements of student athletes in grades 5-8 for athletic participation shall be the same as the standards established by the IHSAA for high school participation with the following qualifiers:

1. If a student receives two F's in non-wheel courses, he or she is academically ineligible until the next grading period.
2. Nine week courses will have the grades apply for that particular nine weeks grading period. The semester grade for the nine weeks course, be it passing or failing, will not be counted to determine academic eligibility.
3. All incoming seventh grade students enrolling from grade six are considered academically eligible for athletic participation for the first nine week grading period.

WHAT MUST BE DONE BEFORE YOUR FIRST PRACTICE

The following items are to be completed by the athlete and parent or guardian before the first practice with any team:

- > have a completed physical examination and supporting student, parent or guardian and doctor signatures
- > meet academic eligibility requirements
- > attend team meeting or meet with coach before practice
- > have athletic transfer filed (transfer students new to Northfield may not compete in interscholastic contests until an athletic transfer is complete) in the athletic office
- > complete a drug testing form

IHSAA ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR STUDENTS GRADES 9 -12

Note: to see all IHSAA By-Laws please visit their site at:

www.IHSAA.org/0203ByLaws.htm

As a member school in the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA), Northfield High School follows the eligibility standards established by the IHSAA. To be eligible to represent your school in interscholastic athletics you:

Must be a regular bona fide student-athlete in good standing in the school you represent; must have enrolled not later than the fifteenth day of the current semester .

Must have completed 10 separate days of organized practice in said practice under the direct supervision of the high school coaching staff preceding the date of participation in interscholastic contests (excluding Girls Golf - See IHSAA Rule 101).

Must have received passing grades in at least five full credit subjects or the equivalent during your last grading period except that the semester grades shall take precedence at the end of the semester; must be currently enrolled in at least five full credit subjects or the equivalent.

Must not have reached your twentieth birthday prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport.

Must have been enrolled in your present high school last semester or at a junior high school from which your high school receives its students.

- . . . unless you are entering the ninth grade for the first time,
 - . . . unless you are transferring from a school district or territory with a corresponding bonafide move on the part of your parents,
 - . . . unless you are a ward of the court; you are an orphan; you reside with a parent; your former school closed; your former is not accredited by the state accrediting agency in the state where your school is located; you are emancipated; you are a foreign exchange student under an approved CSIET program. You must have been eligible from the school from which you transferred.
- Must not have been enrolled in more than eight consecutive semesters beginning with grade 9.

Must be an amateur, have not participated under an assumed name, have not accepted money or merchandise directly or indirectly for athletic participation, have not accepted awards, gifts or honors from colleges or their alumni, have not signed a professional contract.

Must have had a physical examination between **April 1** and your first practice and filed with your principal your completed Consent and Release Certificate (physical form).

Must not have transferred from one school to another for athletic reason as a result of undue influence or persuasion by any person or group.

Must not have received in recognition of your athletic ability, any award not approved by your principal or the IHSAA.

Must not accept awards in the form of merchandise, meals, cash, etc.

Must not participate in an athletic contest during the IHSAA authorized contest season of that sport as an individual or on any team other than your school team. (See IHSAA Rule 15-1a. Exception for outstanding student-athlete - See IHSAA Rule 15-1b).

Must not reflect discredit upon your school nor create a disruptive influence on the discipline, good order, moral or educational environment in your school.

Students with remaining eligibility must not participate in tryouts or demonstrations of athletic ability in the sport as a prospective post-secondary school athlete. Graduates should refer to college rules and regulations before participating.

Must not participate with a student enrolled below grade 9.

Must not participate in camps, clinics, or schools during the IHSAA authorized contest season. Consult your high school principal for regulations regarding out-of-season and summer.

Girls shall not be permitted to participate in an IHSAA tournament program for boys where there is an IHSAA tournament for girls in that sport in which they can qualify as a girl's tournament entrant.

Any contestant or coach ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act shall be suspended from the next interscholastic contests at that level of competition and all other interschool contests at any level in the interim, in addition to any other penalties assessed.

INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES

A NOTE

Teams tend to be far more successful when all athletes, coaches, parents, and fans are on the same page in regard to expectations and sportsmanship. All should be positive and supportive of the team and the overall program and represent oneself and the program with pride, character and class. We ask that all those involved with Northfield Jr./Sr. High School athletics set the bar in regard to behavior and sportsmanship at home and on the road at all athletic activities, contests, and events.

ACCIDENTS or INJURIES

All accidents or injuries home or away, are to be reported to the trainer and/or coach immediately. The coaches should know the health status of their players at all times. Athletes should keep their coach informed of any treatment outside of school and any recurring injuries. Be sure that all injuries are given proper attention. All accidents or injuries, home or away, are to be reported to the trainer and/or coach immediately. The coaches should know the health status of their players at all times. Athletes should keep their coach informed of any treatment outside of school and any recurring injuries. Be sure that all injuries are given proper attention.

ATHLETIC SEASON DEFINED

The athletic season is defined as commencing with the first practice and ending with the final event for that sport. Penalties for violations take effect immediately upon verification of any violation and will include games in succession, i.e. season schedule, tournaments and state series, in order of competition.

ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL AND ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN GAME CONTESTS AND PRACTICES

1. If an athlete is too ill to be in school on the day of a game or sports contest, he or she cannot participate in that day's scheduled interscholastic contest. Minimum attendance of the second half of the school day (the finals three periods) is MANDATORY.
2. Absence from school due to prearranged personal days may excuse athletes from participating in game or contests or practices on the day(s) involved. Athletes should be aware that coaches may take disciplinary action when practices or contests are missed without authorization from the coach involved.
3. Athletes should make every effort to be in attendance the day prior to, the day of, and the day following participation on a team. It should be emphasized that normal fatigue incurred because of participation should not be a reason for missing school.

AWARD PROGRAMS

There will be at least one awards program for each sports season. All award recipients are expected to attend.

CELL PHONE & SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICY

Student-athletes are responsible for information contained in written or electronic transmissions and any information posted on a public domain (i.e. Facebook, YouTube). Any inappropriate, ill-meaning, or derogatory material should not be posted in any public domain. Student-athletes are not precluded from participation in such online social networks; however, student-athletes should be reminded that they serve as representatives of their team, the athletic program, and the MSD of Wabash County.

Texting, tweeting, and uses of other social networks directed at teammates, coaches, opponents, other students, or other school personnel that negatively affects or is likely to negatively affect team morale or performance will be deemed conduct unbecoming a student-athlete. Any individual identified on social networking site which depicts illegal or unacceptable behavior will be considered in violation and subject to athletic discipline.

Electronic devices are not to be used in team locker rooms.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The MSD of Wabash County School Board adopted Code of Conduct for student-athletes, including the penalty portion, appears on the Northfield Jr./Sr. web site as a separate document.

COLLEGE-BOUND ATHLETES AND RECRUITING

College recruiters visit Northfield to talk about and with our athletes. NCAA Eligibility Clearinghouse rules determine who is eligible for scholarships. Basically, a student-athlete must be a "C" student in college prep classes as determined by the NCAA, score well on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT) and have the recommendation of his or her coaches. These rules are available from the Athletic Office, the coach or may be located at the NCAA's website. There is time set aside for recruiter-athlete visitation. Your coach and guidance counselor will arrange these meetings. Transcripts will be provided to the university through the guidance office.

CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position.

When conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to promote a resolution to the issue of concern:

1. Call to make an appointment with the coach (563-8050).
2. If the coach cannot be reached, the Athletic Director will assist you in making the appointment.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
4. If a satisfactory resolution is not accomplished, call the Athletic Director to make an appointment to discuss the situation.

At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined.

CONFERENCE AFFILIATION

Northfield High School belongs to a very competitive conference. The Three Rivers Conference was formed to promote athletics, academics, activities and information exchange between our ten schools: Maconaquah, Manchester, Northfield, North Miami, Peru, Rochester, Southwood, Tippecanoe Valley, Wabash, and Whitko.

Northfield Junior High belongs to the Running Rivers Conference. The ten school conference was formed for the same reasons mentioned above. The ten schools in the RRC are: Maconaquah, Manchester, Northfield, North Miami, Peru, Rochester, Southwood, Tippecanoe Valley, Wabash, and Whitko. Conference tournaments or events will be held in most sports as well as academic competitions including Spell Bowl, Geography Bee, and Academic Super Bowl.

CONFLICTS BETWEEN ACTIVITIES

Activities at Northfield share many students. From time to time there may be conflicts between times of activities. The general rule is to attend academic activities over athletic activities. However, the athletic department and the Principal work together to avoid conflict as much as possible. It is the school's desire to allow student-athletes to participate in both activities (if there is a conflict) if at all possible. Communication between coaches and sponsors of conflicting activities is a must. Importance of contests and state competitions may affect decisions.

DRESS

When going to away activities or contests as representatives of Northfield athletics, the athletes must dress according to team rules.

DRUG TESTING

The School's drug-testing program may include urinalysis tests, saliva screening and/or breathalyzer to determine if the Student Code of Conduct has been violated. Please refer to MSD of Wabash Student Testing Guidelines.

ELEMENTARY PARTICIPATION-FIFTH (5TH) AND SIXTH (6TH) GRADE

Any fifth (5th) or sixth (6th) grade student Sharpe Creek Elementary who meets the grade eligibility requirements may participate on the 7th grade teams in the following "individual" sports: cross country, wrestling, and track and field. Those athletes must have necessary paperwork on file before being allowed to participate.

PLEASE NOTE: As per RRC Constitutional rules, 5th graders will not be allowed to participate in RRC Championship events.

EQUIPMENT

All athletes will care for all equipment or uniforms as though if they were their own property. If equipment or uniforms are destroyed through practice, the item will be replaced by the school. If equipment or uniforms are lost or stolen, the athlete(s) will fulfill their responsibility by paying for replacement of such items. Remember that stealing or wearing stolen equipment is punishable by suspension from athletics. Equipment may not be worn during the school day, at home, or on the streets without approval of the coach of that sport.

All issued equipment and uniforms remain the property of Northfield Jr./Sr. High School and must be returned at the conclusion of the season. Any missing items will be charged to the student-athlete. Graduation or next year's registration will be affected until all fees are paid.

GYMNASIUM PROCEDURES

At no time is it permissible for individuals or groups to work out in the gymnasium without authorized supervision. At no time will individuals or groups be working out, jogging, or just 'messing around' while teams are having an official practice session. Athletes in the gymnasium for one sport practice will refrain from using equipment not specifically for their sport. All practice times are to be cleared with the athletic director.

INSURANCE

Northfield's Athletic Department does not provide insurance coverage for student-athletes. All student-athletes are given the opportunity to purchase insurance at their own cost. Parents can obtain an application from the athletic office to purchase school insurance.

Northfield's administrators and coaches are safety conscious and are expected to instruct athletes in the safe and proper techniques of their sport(s). Due to the nature of athletic activity, however, injury may occur. While the school provides opportunity for such participation, the parent retains the right of denial of such participation and must carry the responsibility for providing medical care and insurance coverage for their child. Parents are encouraged to have a family insurance policy to cover athletic injuries and the cost of treatment.

LOCKER ROOMS

Locker Rooms are the property of Northfield. Team participants should refrain from unacceptable activity or behaviors while using said locker rooms. Student-athletes are expected to conduct themselves with a sense of pride while using these facilities.

MISSING PRACTICES/DOCTOR'S NOTES

Any time the trainer refers a player to a doctor, the athlete must see a doctor and return with a note "releasing" them to play. If a doctor's note specifically states when an athlete may return then we will let them. If the note is generic and does not set a specific day, the athlete must see the doctor again to get released.

Per IHSAA rule, any student who misses 5-10 consecutive days of practice must complete 4 days of practice prior to the day of a contest to be eligible to participate in a contest. Any athlete who misses 11 or more consecutive days of practice must participate actively in 6 days of practice prior to the day of a contest to be eligible to participate in a contest. The key word is "active." Simply shooting free throws, walking or not engaging in any type of activity is not considered "active" participation under this rule.

MULTIPLE SPORT ATHLETES

The Northfield Athletic Department supports the concept of participating in more than one high school sport. In-season sports take precedence over out-of-season sports. Coaches should not establish expectations "out of season" which would prohibit or restrict a student's participation in an "in-season" sport.

PARTICIPATION IN TWO SPORTS IN ONE SEASON

Athletes may participate in more than one sport during one season. Coaches involved with athletes wanting to do this will meet with the athlete and his or her parent(s) to discuss the possibilities. At the time the athlete will declare one of the sports as their primary sport. A schedule resolving all practice and competition conflicts must be established prior to the season. The athlete must realize that extra time for practice is necessary to compete in two sports in one season. The athlete must meet the requirement of both sports; however, when there is a conflict, the athlete will participate in the primary sport unless there is an agreement with both head coaches that the athlete would participate in the secondary sport. If the requirements of one or both sports are not met, the athlete may be removed from either (or both) team(s).

PHYSICALS AND NECESSARY FORMS

All athletes must have a physical form, Athletic Responsibility Acknowledgment, and medical card on file in the office prior to participating in any summer activity whether it be open gym, camp, clinic, weight lifting, etc. Any physical received after April 1 of one school year is good through May 31* of the next, or the completion of the spring sports season of the following school year. Those forms included in the packet are: Emergency Medical Card; Physical Form; Athletic Responsibility Acknowledgement Form; Concussion and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Acknowledgement Form; MSD of Wabash County Drug Testing Program Consent Form; and the Consent of Release of Health Information Form.

PRACTICES: REGULAR, VACATION AND SCHOOL CLOSING

All team members are expected to attend all practices. Vacation practice schedules are set by the coach. Only the coach can excuse an athlete from practice. Practices during a school closing time (snow, fog, etc.) are occasionally held. Attendance at these practices is considered necessary but voluntary.

QUITTING A TEAM OR CHANGING SPORT

If an athlete participates in ten (10) practices (pre-season) for a sport, he or she cannot quit that sport and join another sport until the sport season he/she quit is completed. Mutual consent by both coaches can waive this rule if the student-athlete and team is better off for the change. The athlete should notify the coach immediately, in person, to explain the reason for quitting the team. The athlete should then turn in all school equipment that has been issued to him or her. The athlete forfeits all awards that would have been earned had they completed the season.

SCHOLARSHIPS (ATHLETIC)

Student-athletes and parents interested in pursuing athletic scholarships should start their searches by asking their individual coaches for information and advice concerning this matter. The guidance office will have additional information about the school or area of interest. Students interested in Division I and II colleges and universities must comply with NCAA eligibility guidelines. These guidelines can be found at the NCAA website.

STUDY TABLES

Study tables may be a designated requirement for student-athletes who need a supervised study environment. Coaches may or may not encourage and hold study tables. Coaches may do grade checks as they deem necessary.

SUSPENSIONS VIA DUE PROCESS

A school due process suspension (in school or out of school) makes a student body member ineligible for competition and practice in any activity or program for the duration of the due process.

TEAM CUTTING POLICIES

Coaches at Northfield will follow MSD of Wabash established cutting policies on how they will choose their teams. In some sports, cutting a team down to manageable size is a necessity. Coaches will explain their policy to candidates for their team at the first meeting. An athlete may be cut from a team anytime during a season. Criteria for selecting team members lies with the coaching staff. All potential team candidates are mandated five sessions and may request a sixth if he or she is removed from the squad. The decisions of the coaching staff are final.

TRAINING ROOM

The purpose of the training is to care for and prevent athletic injuries. Student-athletes are not permitted in the training room without adult supervision. Space is limited, therefore, only athletes needing treatment are allowed in the room. All school first aid materials are to remain in the training room or in the medical kits under the direction of the trainer or coach at practices, games, or contests. Under no circumstances are the athletes to use the whirlpool without proper supervision of the trainer or coach. At no time should there be any school owned first aid materials in athlete's lockers. This includes athletic tape.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from away athletic contests will be scheduled and provided by Northfield Jr./Sr High School. It is expected that the student-athlete will ride with the team on the appropriate mode of transportation. The following procedure will be used in determining who does not have to ride the bus home from an away athletic contest:

1. If a parent/legal guardian has DIRECTLY told you that their son or daughter will be riding home with them that evening, the athlete does not have to ride the bus home.
2. For a student to ride home with another ADULT, a written note from a parent must be furnished prior to the contest.
3. Finally, a coach retains the option to require that all ride the bus home.

WEIGHT ROOM AND DECK

The weight room is available for use by teams before and after school and during the summer when supervision is available. No student shall use the weight room without adult supervision, nor without having a physical exam on file in the athletic office.

The equipment on the deck may only be used under the direction of a supervisor (normally a coach or teacher). Under no circumstances are students or athletes allowed to use the equipment without supervision.

AWARDS INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES

Awards are an integral part of most activities. They exist to reward, indicate belonging and show commitment to a cause. Awards are important and Northfield athletes are recognized with a wide variety of earned awards. It is always very important to keep awards in perspective. Too many or inappropriate awards indicate a disregard for the true meaning of sport, while too few can indicate a feeling of non-importance. In reality, awards cannot truly show what has been gained from competing in athletics: the development of loyalties, commitment to a cause; learning about one's limits and representing one's school, community, family and self.

All sports are considered major sports at Northfield Jr./Sr. High School. Athletes, student staff, dance team members, and cheerleaders are eligible to earn awards. Each sport gives the same type awards and all awards are purchased by the school except for jackets which are purchased by the athlete. No athlete may receive an award in a sport for which he/she is academically ineligible at the completion of the season, under suspension for an athletic violation or otherwise not in good standing. Candidates must complete the season's play in order to receive an award, however, injuries may waive this stipulation. No awards will be issued until equipment is turned in to the coach.

AWARDS GIVEN

1. Junior High Award
 - a. Athlete will receive a certificate.
2. Freshman Awards
 - a. Athlete will receive a certificate.
 - b. The numerals will be three inches high, made of white chenille with royal blue trim on gray felt.
 - c. Numerals will be presented to any freshman (9th grader) who satisfactorily competes in any sport and is recommended by his/her coach.
 - d. Only one set of numerals per athlete will be presented regardless of the number of sports participated in that year. The presentation of the numerals will follow the first sports season in which they are earned. Subsequent freshman awards will be certificates.
3. JV Award
 - a. Athlete will receive a certificate.
 - b. A certificate will be presented to sophomores, juniors, and seniors who do not qualify for a varsity award.
4. Varsity Awards
 - a. The varsity award will be an eight inch "N" made of white chenille on gray felt.
 - b. Subsequent varsity awards will be chevrons with the sport logo on it to be placed on the jacket sleeve in a row.
 - c. The following requirements must be met in order to earn a varsity award in each of the following sports:

Baseball- participate in ½ of the varsity games and/or recommendation of the coach

Basketball- participate in ½ of the varsity games and/or recommendation of the coach

Cheerleading- participate at all varsity required contests and/or recommendation of the coach

Cross Country- participate in ½ of all varsity meets ; earn at least 5 varsity participation points and/or the recommendation of the coach. Points may be earned by the top seven runner in each meet point for dual meet and two points for invitational meets.

Dance- participate at all Fall and Winter events and/or recommendation of the coach

Football- participate in ½ of the varsity quarters played and/or recommendation of the coach.

Golf- participate in ½ of the varsity matches (tournaments count double) and/or recommendation of the coach.

Softball- participate in ½ of the varsity games and/or recommendation of the coach.

Tennis- participate in ½ of all varsity meets, earn 5 points as a freshman, 10 points as a sophomore, 15 points as a junior, 20 points as a senior in a varsity meet, or score in the county, conference, or sectional meets and /or recommendation of the coach.

Volleyball- must participate in ½ of all varsity matches and or recommendation of the coach.

Wrestling- participate in ½ of the varsity matches; score 20 varsity points and/or recommendation of the coach.

d. To earn the coaches' recommendation for an award one must give an exceptional service to the team or play or make a significant contribution to the team at some point during the season. A senior may be recommended for a varsity award for loyal service during four years of participation in a specific sport.

5. Athletic Honor Jacket

- a. The athletic honor jacket will conform to the style(s) now in use.
- b. Any athlete who receives his/her 1st varsity letter will be eligible to receive a jacket.
 - i. See "Managers" below for information on managers receiving their jacket.
- c. Those earning an honor jacket will be required to pay the full cost of the jacket when it is ordered.
 - i. Any student may purchase a jacket upon receipt of their next varsity letter (see General Award Policy #9).

6. Senior Plaque Award

- a. Senior plaque award is presented to athletes who have earned six (6) or more varsity letters in their careers.

7. Patches

- a. Patches will be awarded to all varsity letter recipients on teams winning conference or IHSAA tournament championships.
- b. Individuals winning TRC or IHSAA tournament championships will also be honored with a patch.
- c. County or "Finalist" individual patches may be purchased by the athlete from the Athletic Department.

8. Tri Athlete Award

- a. A "Tri Athlete" certificate and gold pin will be awarded yearly to each athlete who successfully completes three (3) seasons of sports participation.

9. Scholar Recognition

- a. "Scholar-Athlete Award" – Certificate and Blue Patch
 - i. The student-athlete must have earned a GPA between 8.0 (B) and 9.499 based on grades from the first semester of present school year.
- b. "Norse Scholar Award" – Certificate and Silver Patch
 - i. The student-athlete must have earned a 9.5 (B+) or better based on grades from the first semester of present school year.
- c. Athletic criteria for both awards
 - i. Fall and winter athletes who successfully complete their full sport season.
 - ii. Spring athletes must be a member of spring sport athletic team on the date of recognition.
 - iii. These awards apply equally to all athletes, managers, dance team members, and cheerleaders on any high school team.
 - iv. Junior High athletes are only recognized with a "Scholar-Athlete" certificate if they meet the criteria.

10. Team/Individuals Awards

- a. Each team may award team or individual awards to its athletes.

Managers: in order to earn a letter, the manager must manage the entire season and meet the coach's expectations. If they do not meet the coach's expectations but manage the entire season they will receive a certificate.

-A manager must earn two manager letters prior to becoming eligible to receive an athletic honor jacket.

GENERAL AWARD POLICIES

1. All awards will be worn in the proper manner as required by the Athletic Council.
2. All awards given for athletic excellence won by an athlete as an individual will become his/her property immediately.
3. Awards which become unusable may be replaced at cost by the athlete.
4. The athlete must be a good citizen of his/her school and community to be considered for an award in any sport.
5. Only those awards earned by the athlete, and given by the athletic department, will be worn by the athlete.
6. Athletes may not give their awards to others to be worn.
7. Athletes moving to Northfield may have their previous awards transferred to the Northfield awards system after completing two seasons of participation. The transfer student may purchase Northfield awards similar to those won previously at his/her former school.
8. infractions of coaching or training rules could necessitate a decision by the Athletic Council concerning an athlete's awards.
9. Manager awards will be made on the same basis as athletes and will be subject to the same restrictions with the exception of the honor jacket in which case a student must earn two manager awards to become eligible to receive their honor jacket.

AWARD PROGRAMS

1. There will be at least one awards program for each sports season. All award recipients are expected to attend. Failure to attend without being excused may result, at the coach's discretion, in the forfeiture of earned awards for that season.

