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**405 Instruction AP – Extracurricular Athletics**

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**Background**

The Division believes in and encourages interschool sports programs which provide educational experiences which will help students grow physically, mentally, emotionally, socially and morally.

**Procedures**

1. School facilities and Division owned equipment (excluding transportation) shall be available, free of charge, to students participating in extra-curricular athletics programs. Students may be required to provide their own personal equipment.
2. A fee may be charged to students to defray the costs of participation in extra-curricular athletics programs. Financial support may also be achieved through school fundraising projects.
  - a) If fees are charged, a statement of accounts shall be kept in accordance with direction from Business Services and are subject to periodic review and audit.
  - b) No profit or benefit shall be realized by a school or the Division as a result of extra-curricular fees being charged.
3. Extra-curricular athletics programs shall be conducted in an environment of fairness, good sportsmanship and safety.
  - a) Principals shall ensure proper supervision for all extra-curricular activities.
  - b) Every effort is to be made to minimize the loss of instructional time for coaches and athletes.
4. Extracurricular athletics programs are to provide for maximum opportunities for both males and females to participate in a variety of activities (individual, dual, team).
  - a) Female only competitions must have an eligibility requirement of female sex at birth.
  - b) The eligibility of any individual attending Prairie Rose School Division in a female only competition can be confidentially challenged in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Student Experiences whose decision is final.

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- c) School Sport Alberta (SSA) must meet its obligations to the Minister of Tourism and Sport.
  - d) Females may compete in male competitions.
  - e) Mixed gender or mixed sex competitions may occur as determined by the Coordinator when numbers warrant.
5. Extracurricular athletics programs are to be organized and directed by coaches who stress educational objectives, fairness, safety, active participation by all participants, competence in the sport with an emphasis on enjoyment.
6. All extracurricular athletics programs at a school are subject to the approval of the Principal.
7. Staff involved with extra-curricular athletics programs are to be familiar with the contents of the document Safety Guidelines for Secondary Interschool Athletics in Alberta and follow the recommended safety practices as is reasonable in the circumstances.
8. All coaches shall emphasize safety of the athletes and not allow students to be put in competitive situations where their physical health is in danger.
- a) Coaches are to be knowledgeable about any physical problems regarding students under their direction as well as being aware of each student's Alberta Health Care number, name of the family physician, and a home phone number.
  - b) Parents have the responsibility of informing the coach of any relevant physical or medical problems.
9. Coaches must remember they are role models for all students under their charge and for this reason are to model a high degree of sportsmanship, fairness, consistency, and self-control to their own students, students and coaches on other teams, and officials.
- a) The well being of each athlete must be respected.
  - b) Parental communication must be evident.
10. At extra-curricular athletic events students will behave in a manner that reflects positively on their school.
11. Early in the sports season the parents will be offered the opportunity to be informed of the coach's procedures and expectations in regards to the students and their parents.

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12. Student travel to athletic events is subject to relevant Transportation Administrative Procedures for Off Site Excursions.

13. The Principal may approve a coach who is not a member of the school's teaching staff.

- a) The Principal must provide guidance and direction to this coach in regards to all rules and procedures pertaining to extra-curricular athletics.
- b) If a person, other than a member of a teaching staff, coaches a school team, the Principal will assign a teacher to the coach for the purpose of coordinating and managing the team's activities.
- c) The teacher liaison must be present for Zone and Provincial Competitions.

14. Student members of school teams must travel to all away games as directed by the Principal.

**Approved:** September 1, 2025 Superintendent *Reagan Weeks*

Reference: Section 1, 6, 11, 31, 32, 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 204, 222 Education Act

Access to Information Act

Fairness and Safety in Sport Act

Protection of Privacy Act

Vital Statistics Act

Fairness and Safety in Sport Regulation

School Fees Regulation

Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12

Physical Education Safety Guidelines

Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools

Safety Guidelines for Secondary Inter-School Athletics in Alberta

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