

# CALCASIEU PARISH MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

## ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Revised 2006-2007

### CONSTITUTION

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# CONSTITUTION OF THE CALCASIEU PARISH MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## ARTICLE 1

### 1.0 NAME

- 1.1 This organization shall be known as the Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic Association.

## ARTICLE 2

### 2.0 PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE

- 2.1 Middle school athletics should meet the needs of students in grades 6, 7, and 8, to explore and develop fully as individuals. It should provide these students an athletic program built on sportsmanship, self-discipline, responsibility, team participation, and concern for the welfare of others with proper emphasis on competition and its outcome between schools. These concerns should be reflected by evidence in a constructive and positive manner during any athletic event by participants, coaches, and student bodies. Disregard of this philosophy during competition between schools through the use of improper remarks, behavior, attitudes, scores, and a lack of concern for the welfare of all participants does not serve the needs, purposes, and intent of middle school athletics.
- 2.2 The Calcasieu Parish School Board recognizes the value of a well-planned athletic program based on the needs of the pupils. Though interscholastic athletic programs serve to keep up good pupil and school spirit, in the final analysis a good physical education program for the whole school is the objective of educators. While the Board recognizes the importance of such a program for youth, academic preparation for future living must never be permitted to occupy a position of lesser importance in the minds of students, teachers, or the community. Mindful of this philosophy the Calcasieu Parish School Board has adopted these regulations governing athletics in the Calcasieu Parish Middle Schools.
- 2.3 It is the responsibility of principals and coaches to see that the athletic programs in their schools reflect the proper middle school philosophy. They should keep in mind the impact of their influence on the attitudes of their students, school, and community and of their influence on these students, schools, and communities with whom they compete.

## ARTICLE 3

### 3.0 OBJECT

- 3.1 The object of this organization shall be to promote, regulate, and direct the interschool athletic activities of the Calcasieu Parish Middle Schools. Its purpose shall be as follows:
- 3.1.1 To assist, advise, and aid schools in organizing and conducting interschool sports.
  - 3.1.2 To protect members of the organization by preparing and enforcing rules that will equalize and stimulate wholesome competition.
  - 3.1.3 To preserve the game for the boys and girls and not sacrifice the boys and girls to the game.
  - 3.1.4 To promote the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play in all athletic contests.

## ARTICLE 4

### 4.0 MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 All member schools agree to conform to the rules and regulations of the organization.
- 4.2 In matters pertaining to the athletic affairs of a school, the principal is responsible to this organization. All official relations with the school shall be through the principal.

## ARTICLE 5

### 5.0 LEAGUE AFFAIRS

5.1 The district committee is composed of all principals of the district, one of who shall serve as president. The Middle School Director shall be notified in writing of the name of the president by May 30 of each year.

A president from the principals of the league membership will be elected to serve a two-year term each spring, at the end of track season. A president-elect will be named also.

The president's responsibility will rotate every two years by an alphabetic list of middle schools:

S. P. Arnett Middle  
DeQuincy Middle  
LeBlanc Middle  
W. W. Lewis Middle  
Maplewood Middle  
Ray D. Molo Middle  
Moss Bluff Middle  
Oak Park Middle  
Reynaud Middle  
Vinton Middle  
J. I. Watson Middle  
S. J. Welsh Middle  
F. K. White Middle

### 5.2 Duties and Restrictions

5.2.1 All middle schools in the Calcasieu Parish School system are members of the league. Members are responsible for conducting their athletic programs under the philosophy, purposes, and rules of the league and Calcasieu Parish School Board policy.

- 5.2.2 The president will call and preside over all meetings of the league. He will be responsible for all information concerning the league (schedules, rules, minutes, etc.) being sent to all league members in writing on a timely basis. He will appoint committees to study league business when appropriate.
  - 5.2.3 The president-elect will be responsible for minutes of all regular meetings of the district committee.
  - 5.2.4 District schedule of games in football and volleyball shall be announced in writing by the president to all members at least 30 days prior to the beginning of school.
  - 5.2.5 Led by its president, the district committee shall conduct all district business.
  - 5.2.6 There will be no designated group or league champion. No school may claim a championship. It will be permissible for a school to make a banner listing their WIN/LOSS RECORD, TEAM MEMBERS, AND COACHES for posting in their gym or stadium.
  - 5.2.7 District by-laws, rules, schedules, and minutes are binding when adopted and signed by a majority of the member principals of a district. Referrals can be made to the Middle School Director or the Board when necessary.
  - 5.2.8 The district president is responsible for providing each member school within the district, a copy of the by-laws, rules, minutes, and schedules. The president shall maintain district files containing copies of all legally adopted by-laws, rules, minutes, and schedules.
- 5.3 Appeal from decision of district committee
- 5.3.1 Any school shall be permitted to appeal a district committee's decision to the president and Middle School Director.
  - 5.3.2 The president has the authority to **grant the** appeal and convene a special committee (such as sportsmanship, district, etc.) as needed.

## ARTICLE 6

### 6.0 CLASSIFICATION

#### 6.1 Purpose

6.1.1 Membership classification shall be applied for administration and competition purposes.

6.1.2 Member schools are listed according to their current classifications:

#### Group A

S. P. Arnett Middle  
DeQuincy Middle  
LeBlanc Middle  
Maplewood Middle  
Reynaud Middle  
Vinton Middle  
J. I. Watson Middle

#### Group B

W. W. Lewis Middle  
Ray D. Molo Middle  
Moss Bluff Middle  
Oak Park Middle  
S. J. Welsh Middle  
F. K. White Middle

#### 6.2 Changes

6.2.1 Scheduling groups for football, basketball, volleyball, and track will be determined **every two years**.

#### 6.3 Enrollment Calculation

6.3.1 A school's classification for the classification year shall be based on total enrollment in grades 6-8 using the enrollment figures from the end of school numbers from Child Welfare and Attendance.

6.3.2 A school's enrollment classification shall include all students in grades 6-8 including special education.

## ARTICLE 7

### 7.0 SPORTSMANSHIP

- 7.1 Principals, coaches, other faculty members, students and spectators are expected to exemplify the highest **principles** of sportsmanship and ethics of competition in all interscholastic athletic relationships.
- 7.2 A sportsmanship violation in any interscholastic contest shall be reported in writing within 48 working hours to the president of the Middle School Athletic League and the Director of Middle Schools.
- 7.3 The principal of the home team is responsible for overall contest management and for the conduct of his/her spectators and school's representatives at the contest.
- 7.4 The principal of the visiting team is responsible for the conduct of his/her spectators and school's representatives at the contest.
- 7.5 Possession, with or without a permit or other authority, of firearms or other dangerous weapons including, but not limited to rifles, shotguns, pistols, revolvers, knives, nightsticks or blackjacks, or other such weapons are prohibited at athletic contests in which a Calcasieu Parish Middle School athletic member school is a participant.
- 7.5.1 Violation of this rule by a contest participant, coach, assistant coach, non-school employee helper, family, fan, or other person affiliated with one of the participating schools shall subject the person and the school to disciplinary actions and penalties in the penalty code of the Calcasieu Parish **Middle Schools Association** Athletic By-laws.
- 7.5.2 If contest or other school officials discover the violation of this rule, they may suspend the start or the continuation of the contest until the person who is in violation of the rule has removed the firearm or the dangerous weapon from the contest area.
- 7.5.3 Authorized law enforcement officers attending any athletic contest are exempted from these provisions, provided the uniformed law enforcement officer(s) are not coaches, non-school employee helper, coach, or otherwise participating in the contest.

- 7.6 No alcoholic beverages shall be sold or consumed at Calcasieu Parish Middle School athletic events.
- 7.7 A sportsmanship committee, appointed by the president of the League, shall consist of at least 3 principals. Its membership shall include the president of the League who will only advise the committee on the infractions. Only the 3 appointed members would have the authority to vote on rule infractions.
- 7.8 Sportsmanship violations reported to the president shall be investigated and if necessary a sportsmanship committee shall be convened to hear and consider the allegations.
- 7.9 After hearing and evaluating the reports of schools and/or involved parties, the sportsmanship committee shall inform the Director of Middle Schools who will have the power to take action as is outlined in the penalty section of the Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic Policy. Schools involved shall have the right to appeal the ruling to the president of the League and the Director of Middle Schools.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **8.0 HARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

- 8.1 Each school year the president of the League will appoint a sub-committee of 3 members, not including the president, to review and rule on potential hardship situations of students who have been ruled ineligible.
- 8.2 Except for eligibility, age limit, proof of age, illegal recruiting, independent team play, and/or interscholastic competition, the hardship committee shall have the authority to set aside the effect of any eligibility rule on an individual student when, in their opinion, the rule fails to accomplish the purpose for which it intended or the rule works an undue hardship upon the student.
- 8.3 Hardship committee meetings shall be scheduled as needed.
- 8.4 All decisions of this committee, after referral with the middle school director, shall be final.

# BY-LAWS OF THE CALCASIEU PARISH MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Calcasieu Parish School Board policy will conform to Louisiana High School Athletic Association and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved regulations with the exceptions as noted in this document.

Good sportsmanship should always be emphasized.

The principal of each school has primary responsibility for the enforcement of the rules contained in this document.

At the beginning of each school year, the president of the Middle School Athletic League shall appoint a committee of three members excluding **him/her**. This committee will serve the same function as the LHSAA Commissioner and will also double as the hardship committee. Appeals of this committee's decisions may be made to the Administrative Director of Middle Schools.

## ARTICLE 1

### 1.0 ELIGIBILITY

#### 1.1 Application

1.1.1 All eligibility rules shall apply to all students participating in interscholastic athletic competition at all levels of play.

1.1.2 All rules or portions of rules pertaining to eligibility shall be voted on by a majority of the principals and approved by the Calcasieu Parish School Board.

#### 1.2 Official Ruling Request

1.2.1 If at any time the eligibility of a player is questioned, a principal shall have the right to ask the Middle School Athletic Committee for a ruling on a player's eligibility.

1.2.2 A principal may ask for an eligibility ruling on a player from his own school or from another school. All official requests for eligibility rulings should be written. An eligibility ruling by the Middle School Athletic Committee should be in writing.

1.2.3 If a request for an eligibility ruling is made and time does not permit its consideration before a game, the game shall be played; but if upon sufficient evidence, it appears that a player is ineligible, the Middle School Athletic Committee shall bar the player until he/she may become eligible. The games he/she played in shall be forfeited to the opposing team and other penalties may be imposed on the offending team.

### 1.3 Bona Fide Student

1.3.1 A player shall be a bona fide student of his/her school.

1.3.1.1 He/she shall be enrolled in and attend school on a regular basis.

1.3.2 The Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic League has jurisdiction over a member school consisting of grades 6-8.

### 1.4 Age and Entry Requirements

1.4.1 A student becomes eligible for interscholastic athletic participation if he/she has not reached his/her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday before September 1 of that school year and is in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

1.4.2 The principal shall have on file at all times sufficient evidence of the legal birth of each student athlete and evidence of the student's entry into middle school.

1.4.3 Evidence of legal birth shall be the same as that required by Child Welfare and Attendance Department for enrollment in Calcasieu Parish Schools.

1.4.4 The cumulative record shall suffice as evidence of the date of entry into the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

- 1.4.5 Proof of birth or entry into the 6<sup>th</sup> grade shall be available to the Middle School Athletic Committee ASAP, if requested.
- 1.4.6 Violation of the age and entry requirements will conform to the penalties section of the Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic League Handbook.
- 1.5 Insurance, Release Forms, Injuries, Illness, and Physicals
  - 1.5.1 All students engaging in interscholastic sports shall be required to fill out a form on which it is stated that the school or Board will not assume liability for accidents or injury to students. The parent must sign this release form before the student shall be permitted to participate in athletics. This form must be kept on file in the principal's office.
  - 1.5.2 All students shall be required to fill out a health examination form. The parent must sign this form before a student shall be permitted to participate in athletics. This form must be kept on file in the principal's office.
  - 1.5.3 All athletes must have insurance coverage. Insurance can be provided by the parent or through the student group accident insurance plan made available to all students.
  - 1.5.4 Participants in interscholastic athletics who receive injuries or suffer illness of sufficient gravity to require treatment or attention of a physician MUST HAVE A RELEASE FROM A PHYSICIAN BEFORE FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN AN ATHLETIC PROGRAM SHALL BE ALLOWED.
- 1.6 Length of Eligibility
  - 1.6.1 Upon entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade in, the student has six consecutive semesters to complete eligibility.
- 1.7 Registration and Certification
  - 1.7.1 Prior to participating in a sport, a student shall be listed on an eligibility list and a properly completed form before he/she can participate in sports.

- 1.7.1.1 This information has to be filed with Administrative Director of Middle Schools before the first playing date.
  - 1.7.1.2 An eligibility list must be completed for each sport.
- 1.7.2 A school shall be subject to the penalties section of the Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic League Handbook for any eligibility violation.
- 1.8 Scholastic Requirements
  - 1.8.1 Calcasieu Parish School Board policy states that all students other than special education (excluding gifted and talented) must:
    - 1.8.1.1 Pass at least five (5) subjects from the following list:
      - a. Math
      - b. Science
      - c. Social Studies
      - d. Reading/Foreign Language
      - e. English
      - f. Health & Physical Education
    - 1.8.1.2 Maintain a 1.5 grade point average for each semester. (Grade point average to be computed using grades from the six (6) subjects listed above). The final grade will be used to determine eligibility for the fall semester.
  - 1.8.2 Individual schools may set higher, but not lower, scholastic requirements for athletic participation.
  - 1.8.3 If a student meets all eligibility requirements: but fails to pass the LEAP Test, the student **must** attend LEAP Summer Remediation , meet the attendance requirements, and re-take the LEAP Test. Failing to meet these requirements makes the student ineligible to participate in athletics for the next school year.
- 1.9 Determining Grade Point Averages
  - 1.9.1 The grade point average shall be determined by dividing the six (6) subjects listed into the total number of grade points earned by the student.

1.9.2 For the purpose of determining a student's Grade Point Average, the point value of each grade is as follows:

A = 4 points

B = 3 points

C = 2 points

D = 1 point

U = 0 points

#### 1.10 Summer School

1.10.1 Grades earned in approved subjects taken in summer school may be used in determining the scholastic eligibility of a student if completed prior to the first day of classes in that school year.

1.10.2 If a student is repeating a subject in summer school that he/she took during the preceding school year, the subject the student took during the regular school year shall not be used in determining the student's Grade Point Average if the school elects to count the grade earned by the student in summer school.

#### 1.11 Special Education Students

1.11.1 Special education students (other than gifted or talented) who have been mainstreamed by virtue of their IEP shall be subject to the same rules as regular students. Those who have been placed in alternatives to regular instruction programs or classes by virtue of their IEP must achieve 70 percent of his/her short-term objectives at the end of each semester. This special education scholastic rule applies only to those special education students who pursue four or less of the regular education classes listed under Scholastic.

1.11.2 A student who fails to meet the scholastic requirements as relates to regular or special education will be ineligible for the following semester.

1.11.3 This rule's purpose is to make athletic programs accessible to students; however, once a student reports for a sport, he/she, like any other student, is subject of earning a place on the team.

## 1.12 Official Grading Periods

1.12.1 A student shall meet the scholastic requirements at the end of the first semester to be eligible for the entire second semester.

1.12.2 Prior to the first day of the semester of a new school year, a student shall meet the scholastic requirements to be eligible for the entire first semester.

## 1.13 Change in Scholastic Eligibility

1.13.1 The date for change of eligibility status for the second semester shall be the third school day following the end of the grading period for the first semester.

1.13.2 The principal shall be responsible for verifying each student's eligibility.

## 1.14 Promotion into Middle School

1.14.1 Promotion from elementary school into middle school for the first time shall fulfill the scholastic requirements for the first semester.

## 1.15 Incomplete Grades

1.15.1 "Incomplete" grades shall not be considered as passing grades for the eligibility of a player until the "incomplete" grade is removed.

## 1.16 Transfers/Attendance/Out of Zone

1.16.1 Attendance zones established by the Calcasieu Parish School Board shall be used in determining eligibility. The Child Welfare and Attendance department must approve attendance at a particular middle school.

1.16.2 A student shall be considered as enrolled in a middle school when he/she has officially enrolled in and attended at least one class at that school.

1.16.3 If a student transfers to a middle school outside his/her zone, he/she will become eligible as soon as he/she has officially enrolled and attended at least one class. ALL OUT-OF-ZONE TRANSFERS MUST FIRST BE APPROVED BY CHILD WELFARE AND ATTENDANCE.

1.17 Court Orders

1.17.1 A student declared a ward of the court or state and who is placed in a home by the court shall be ruled eligible at the middle school in the attendance zone where the home is located.

1.18 Special Situations

1.18.1 A student residing in an adjoining parish may elect to attend a middle school in Calcasieu Parish. This student may become eligible as long as out-of-zone permission has been obtained from Child Welfare and Attendance first and other eligibility requirements are met.

1.18.2 A student who has had his/her chain of attendance broken at a middle school because of the mandates of a licensed and approved chemical dependency unit he/she is enrolled in shall be immediately eligible at the same school upon returning.

1.18.3 A student who leaves the United States with his/her parents and attends a school outside of the United States, shall be immediately eligible at the middle school he/she enrolls in upon returning to the United States.

1.18.4 A transfer from a non-accredited school to an accredited school shall not create eligibility until the requirements of the Pupil Progression Plan are met.

1.19 Foreign Exchange Students

1.19.1 A foreign exchange student attending a middle school, through an approved United States agency or a program of student cultural exchange, shall become eligible immediately when he/she resides in a home in the same zone as the middle school provided he/she meets all other eligibility requirements.

1.20 Attendance

1.20.1 A student must be in attendance at least one (1) hour prior to release time in order to participate in a contest. Only the school administrator can grant exceptions to this rule.

1.21 Suspension

1.21.1 No student will be allowed to participate in any event on the day or night while he/she is under suspension from school.

## ARTICLE 2

### 2.0 COMPETITION

- 2.1 A student playing interschool games shall meet all Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic Association eligibility requirements (B-teams, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teams, etc.).
- 2.2 Interscholastic competition shall be permitted in all Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic Association recognized boys' and girls' sports.
- 2.3 The following sports shall be recognized for boys only; football, boys' basketball, and boys' track.
- 2.4 The following sports shall be recognized for girls only; volleyball, girls' basketball, and girls' track.
- 2.5 There shall be only one team per school for scheduled athletic games. There will be one boy's and one girl's game for competition. A "B team" game may be played before the regular game if both schools agree.
- 2.6 Scheduling groups for football, volleyball, basketball, and track will be determined **every two years** based on the end of year enrollments.
- 2.7 During the season, a student who is a member of a middle school team in Calcasieu parish may not practice with or play in a contest with any team that is not coached by the school's coach.
- 2.8 Boys and girls shall meet the same eligibility requirements to compete in interscholastic athletic events.

## ARTICLE 3

### 3.0 HARDSHIP PROGRAMS

At the beginning of each school year, the president of the Association shall appoint a committee composed of 3 members; excluding himself. The purpose of this committee is to rule on potential hardship situations of students. After the school site principal considers requests for hardship rulings, this hardship committee shall serve as the appeal board to review the principal's decisions made on these special requests. If an appeal involves one of the committee member's schools, then the Administrative Director of Middle Schools will appoint an alternate. The hardship committee shall have the authority to set aside the effect of any eligibility rule upon an individual student when, in their opinion, the rule fails to accomplish the purpose it was intended or when the rule works an undue hardship upon the student.

- 3.1 The condition(s) causing a student not to meet the eligibility requirements shall have been involuntary, unforeseeable, uncorrectable, and create a unique situation concerning the student's educational, emotional, or physical status that exists and is beyond the control of the school, the school system, the student, and/or his/her parents or guardians. The condition(s) shall have created a situation that the school, student, or parent(s) could not have reasonably been expected to comply with the eligibility rule involved and is not addressed specifically by a written exception to the rule in question.
- 3.2 When the six consecutive semesters rule is in question, the hardship application shall be submitted within the six semesters when the hardship situation is discovered and not after he/she has completed the six consecutive semesters.
- 3.3 Inability to participate due to illness, injury, or other medical reasons shall not be considered hardship conditions except in those cases where ineligibility exists because the student was unable to attend or prohibited from attending school for a prolonged length of time due to medical treatment.

- 3.4 Requests for an exception shall be made in writing to the hardship committee prior to any participation by the student and must be signed by the principal. The application for hardship should contain all of the facts pertaining to the case, including sufficient data, information, and documentation making it possible to reach a decision without further investigation.
- 3.4.1 The inclusion of false information with this application may result in penalties to the school.
- 3.5 In cases involving the six consecutive semester rule and/or scholastic rule, a current official copy of the student's cumulative folder showing all scholastic and attendance data since the first entry into the sixth grade shall be attached to the appeal.
- 3.6 In cases involving medical questions, statements from two or more qualified medical experts explaining in detail the medical aspects of the case should accompany the appeal.
- 3.7 In cases involving legal questions, copies of official records of court actions shall be attached.
- 3.8 Lack of knowledge of any eligibility rule on the part of any party involved shall not be considered sufficient cause for setting aside the effects of the rule.
- 3.9 The student and/or his/her parents shall not be allowed to appear before the committee unless the committee so agrees. The principal of the appealing school may meet with the committee to discuss the appeal.
- 3.10 A simple majority of the members assigned to the hardship committee shall be present at the hearing in order to constitute a quorum. No member shall serve on the committee while a case involving a student from his/her school is being heard. All decisions by the hardship committee shall require a majority vote. Decisions of the hardship committee may be appealed to the Administrative Director of Middle Schools. The Administrative Director of Middle Schools is invited to be present at all hardship committee hearings.
- 3.11 When reviewing requests for hardship consideration, race, gender, or religion shall not be a factor in granting an exception to the eligibility rule.

- 3.12 A request for additional semester(s) eligibility because of academic improvement and/or achievement alone shall not be a basis for waiving the six consecutive semester rule.
- 3.13 In reaching its decision, the hardship committee shall operate under the following guidelines:
- 3.13.1 Loss of eligibility in itself shall not be considered a hardship situation. Hardship conditions causing ineligibility shall be the basis on which the waiver of the rule is considered.
  - 3.13.2 Academic or athletic deficiencies in a school's curriculum or extracurricular athletic program shall not create hardship conditions.
  - 3.13.3 The appealing school shall be notified of the date, time, and place of the appeal.
  - 3.13.4 A personal appearance by the appealing school's principal may be requested.
  - 3.13.5 Persons representing appeals shall be businesslike in their presentation.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **4.0 RECRUITING**

- 4.1 Illegal Recruiting
- 4.1.1 Recruiting or attempting to recruit students by member schools for athletic purposes is prohibited, except for eligible students.
- 4.2 School Visitations
- 4.2.1 No member school or anyone acting on behalf of a member school shall give or distribute anything that implies that a school's athletic program is better than the athletic program of other member schools.
- 4.3 Penalties
- 4.3.1 A student found to have been recruited in violation of this rule shall be ineligible to participate in athletics for at least one calendar year.

## ARTICLE 5

### 5.0 ADMINISTERING, COACHING, AND SUPERVISING

#### 5.1 Administration

- 5.1.1 The principal of the home/sponsoring school shall be charged with the overall administration of each athletic contest/event, including preparing facilities for play, taking safety precautions, providing security, and supervising conduct of coaches, players, and spectators.
  - 5.1.1.1 Visiting school teams will leave the athletic contest area as a group supervised by their coach and administrator or designee.
- 5.1.2 The principal of each school involved in an athletic contest/event shall be charged with the responsibility of the conduct of school officials representing his/her school.
- 5.1.3 The principal of each school involved in an athletic contest/event shall be charged with the responsibility of the conduct of his/her team personnel competing.
- 5.1.4 The principal **or his/her designee** of each school involved in a athletic contest/event shall be charged with supervising the conduct of the spectators connected with his/her school attending an athletic contest/event.
- 5.1.5 The principal **or his/her designee** of the home/sponsoring school shall be charged with the security and well being of the contest officials officiating the contest/event.
- 5.1.6 The principal of each school shall be responsible for the sports medicine aspects of competition as it relates to his/her team.

## 5.2 Coaching Requirements

5.2.1 The coach of an athletic team shall be employed by the School Board and shall be assigned coaching duties by the Board or the school principal.

5.2.2 All coaches shall meet the following requirement:

5.2.2.1 Any individual approved by the principal, may assist the coach with his/her duties in all sports.

## 5.3 School Supervision

5.3.1 No team or individual shall be permitted to participate, under any condition, in a contest **without the administrator or his/her designee from the school he/she represents**. This faculty member must not have coaching responsibility for this contest.

# ARTICLE 6

## 6.0 SPORTS SEASONS

### 6.1 General

6.1.1 The Calcasieu Parish Middle School League sports season for a school team is defined as that period beginning with the opening date of practice, as called by the coach, within the official starting dates, and extending through the date of the last regular season contest in a particular sport.

6.1.1.1 Practice may not be held on Saturday, Sunday, or holidays.

6.1.2 A student shall not receive direct or indirect coaching from a coach at any other time during the school year other **than** during the season of the sport he/she participates.

6.1.3 A coach shall not organize, supervise, administer, or direct out-of-season practices, meetings, or gatherings of student athletes in the school.

6.1.4 Violation of the sports season rule is addressed under the section “Penalty Code”.

## 6.2 Sports Season Calendar

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Earliest Practice</u>	<u>First Playing Date</u>	<u>Last Playing Date</u>
Football	1 <sup>st</sup> day of School	Labor Day Week Open Date	1 <sup>st</sup> week in November
Volleyball	1 <sup>st</sup> day of School	Labor Day Week Open Date	1 <sup>st</sup> week in November
Basketball	2 <sup>nd</sup> week in November	1 <sup>st</sup> week in December	2 <sup>nd</sup> week in February
Track	3 <sup>rd</sup> week in February	1 <sup>st</sup> week in March	4 <sup>th</sup> week in April

## 6.3 Independent Teams

6.3.1 An independent team is a sports team that is not directly sponsored or supported by a member school through the use of school uniforms, school equipment, school money, or faculty coaches during the school year.

6.3.2 Once a student becomes a member of a league team, he/she may not participate or practice with an independent team in that same sport.

6.3.3 This rule shall be in effect for a student from the time he/she reports for the school team until the student is no longer a member of the school team for any reason, or until the team has completed its sports season.

## ARTICLE 7

### 7.0 ATHLETICS AND INSTRUCTION TIME

- 7.1 All athletic contests shall be scheduled after school hours.
- 7.2 A student shall attend school at least one hour prior to participating in an athletic contest. Only the school administrator can grant an exception to this rule.
- 7.3 Practice
  - 7.3.1 Practice shall begin no earlier than the opening date of the school term.
  - 7.3.2 No daily practice shall last more than two (2) hours and forty-five (45) minutes.
  - 7.3.3 No daily practice shall continue after 7:30 p.m.
  - 7.3.4 There will be no scrimmage between schools in any sports.
  - 7.3.5 Practice shall not be allowed on school holidays or weekends.

## ARTICLE 8

### 8.0 PENALTY CODE

- 8.1 The coach will be reprimanded through the evaluation process with a Form 102, to be sent to the Director of Middle Schools and Assistant Superintendent of Personnel.
- 8.2 On the second violation of middle schools athletic policy, the coach will be evaluated on a Form 106 (Formal Evaluation) to be sent to the Director of Middle Schools and Assistant Superintendent of Personnel.
  - 8.2.1 The principal and coach must appear before the Calcasieu Parish School Board to answer for their actions.
- 8.3 Knowingly violating any Calcasieu Parish Middle School athletic policy may result in forfeiture of future home games as determined by the Executive Committee.

## Article 9

### 9.0 ATHLETIC CONTESTS

9.1 Calcasieu Parish Middle School Athletic League members shall not compete against the following teams:

9.1.1 Independent teams

9.1.2 Recreational teams

9.1.3 Club teams

9.2 Night contests

9.2.1 A contest scheduled to be played after 6:00 p.m. shall be classified as a school night contest.

9.2.2 Friday night shall not be considered a school night.

9.2.3 When a contest begins before and extends beyond 6:00 p.m. on a school night, it shall be classified as a school night contest.

9.3 Weekend

9.3.1 No contest shall be played on Sunday.

9.4 Scrimmages

9.4.1 No scrimmages by member schools are allowed.

9.5 Jamborees

9.5.1 No Jamborees by member schools are allowed.

9.6 Tournaments

9.6.1 No team may enter more than one tournament during the same week.

9.6.2 After a school plays its first game in a tournament, it shall not play a non-tournament game within the dates of the tournament.

9.7 Postponement of a contest

9.7.1 When a contest is postponed because of inclement weather, darkness, or mechanical problems, the contest will be rescheduled. Only mutual agreement by both schools will result in the contest being cancelled.

9.8 Noisemakers

9.8.1 Artificial noisemakers, including, but not limited to, such items as bells, horns, drums, jam boxes, amplifiers, and/or battery-operated megaphones, shall be prohibited in any athletic gymnasium while an interscholastic contest is being played.

9.8.1.1 These noisemakers do not include items providing warm-up music under the team supervision or instruments used by an organized pep band if approved by the host principal.

9.8.1.2 Authorized pep bands shall not play at anytime and in any manner while the ball is alive.

## ARTICLE 10

### 10.0 BASKETBALL

#### 10.1 Important Dates

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Calendar Week</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> Regular season contest	1 <sup>st</sup> week in December
Practice	Begins no earlier than the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of November. No daily practice should last more than 2 hours and 45 minutes. Cannot go beyond 7:30 p.m. No practices allowed on school holidays or weekends.
Scrimmages	No scrimmage between schools.

#### 10.2 Rules

10.2.1 Interscholastic high school rules shall be used with the following exceptions:

- 10.2.1.1 Boys' games will consist of four (4) six-minute quarters.
- 10.2.1.2 Girls' games shall consist of four (4) six-minute quarters.
- 10.2.1.3 Players can participate on only one team and in only one league per season.
- 10.2.1.4 Time between boys' and girls' games is limited to ten (10) minutes.

### 10.3 General

- 10.3.1 Schools shall be allowed to schedule and participate in interscholastic games on not more than two (2) school nights per week, provided the final game is scheduled to begin no later than 6:00 p.m.
- 10.3.2 League schools that play each other as assigned by the league in football shall play each other home and home in basketball on dates scheduled by the league.
- 10.3.3 Games will be scheduled on Mondays and Thursdays.
- 10.3.4 League members may schedule eligible schools of their choice from teams within or outside the league on open playing dates.
- 10.3.5 The home team shall secure two officials from the Basketball Official's Association. If that number is unavailable, less may be used if agreeable with the principals of the two schools or their designees.
- 10.3.6 The home team shall furnish faculty members, paid officials, and adults to handle clock and scorebook.

## ARTICLE 11

### 11.0 FOOTBALL

#### 11.1 Important Dates

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Calendar Week</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> regular season contest	Labor Day Week Open Date
Practice	Begins no earlier than the Opening date of the school term. (1 <sup>st</sup> 3 days shall be shorts, shirts and helmets) No daily practice shall last more than 2 hours and 45 minutes. Cannot go beyond 7:30 p.m. No practices allowed on holidays or week-ends.
Scrimmages	No scrimmages between schools.

#### 11.2 Contest Limitations

11.2.1 No more than 8 playing dates.

11.2.2 Each member school will provide a copy of their schedule to the league contest official assignment secretary and a copy to each opponent.

11.2.3 Contests will be held on Tuesday of each week of the season.

### 11.3 Rules

11.3.1 Interscholastic high school rules shall be used with the following exceptions and/or provisions:

- 11.3.1.1 Four (4) officials are to be used for all games unless that number is unavailable. At such time, less may be used if agreeable with the principals of the two schools or their designees.
- 11.3.1.2 Each quarter is to be 8 minutes in length. By mutual agreement between the principals and his/her designees this requirement may be altered due to either absences of adequate lighting, late starts, etc., and if such action is warranted.
- 11.3.1.3 No punting is to be allowed (in lieu of punting, a coach may choose to advance the ball 30 yards, but not inside the opponent's 10 yard line). The clock shall be not stopped while the ball is being advanced.
- 11.3.1.4 The end of regulation play ends the game, regardless of the score.
- 11.3.1.5 Players can only participate on only one team in only one league per season.
- 11.3.1.6 There will be no kicking for extra point after touchdown. The scoring team will put the ball in play at the 3 yard line to either pass or run or legal combination of both for two points. A successful extra point will count as 2 points.

### 11.4 Color of Jersey

11.4.1 Home team will wear light color jersey unless coaches agree otherwise.

## ARTICLE 12

### 12.0 TRACK & FIELD

12.1 Rules in this article shall apply to both boys' and girls' outdoor track and field unless otherwise specified.

#### 12.2 Limitations

##### 12.2.1 Season

12.2.1.1 The league will schedule 3 meets per season for league members.

12.2.1.2 League members may schedule two (2) optional meets with schools of their choice from within or outside the league.

##### 12.2.2 Calendar Week

12.2.2.1 The number of interschool meets in which a student may participate shall be limited to one during a calendar week without permission from the District Committee.

##### 12.2.3 School Day Contest

12.2.3.1 A team shall not participate in an interschool meet during instructional time in a regular season.

##### 12.2.4 School Night Contest

12.2.4.1 Meets shall not be held at night without prior permission from the Administrative Director of Middle Schools.

#### 12.3 Track Events

12.3.1 Only one contestant from each school shall compete in any individual event (in the mile and 800 meter run, schools may run more than one contestant, but only one will be designated for scoring purposes.)

12.3.2 A participant cannot enter more than four (4) events.

### 12.3.3 Events

#### TRACK:

	Boys		Girls
800	Meter Relay	800	Meter Relay
1600	Meter Run	1600	Meter Run
100	Meter Dash	100	Meter Dash
800	Meter Run	800	Meter Run
400	Meter Relay	400	Meter Relay
400	Meter Dash	400	Meter Dash
200	Meter Dash	200	Meter Dash
1600	Meter Relay	1600	Meter Relay

#### FIELD:

Boys	Girls
Shot-put	Softball Throw
High Jump	High Jump
Long Jump	Long Jump

## 12.4 General

12.4.1 Track and field meets shall adhere to the Outdoor Track and Field Rule Book published by the National Federation of State High School Association.

12.4.2 Scoring shall be based on the scoring system outline in the National Federation's Outdoor Track and Field Rule Book. The scoring system is explained in the Outdoor Track and Field Rule Book.

12.4.3 The host school shall follow the order of events for running that is listed in 12.3.3 with girls running first followed by boys.

12.4.4 A participant cannot enter more than four (4) events.

12.5 Uniforms and Shoes

12.5.1 Contestants shall compete in school-issued uniforms.

12.5.2 Contestants shall wear shirts and shoes at all times during the meet.

12.5.3 A contestant shall not wear a cap or hat while competing.

12.5.4 Contestants shall not wear jewelry while competing.

12.6 Awards

12.6.1 Host school or schools shall be responsible for awards.

12.6.2 Ribbons will be awarded for first, second, and third place finishers in each event for the required meets.

12.6.3 No team awards will be permitted.

12.7 Host School Track Schedule

MEETS:

Odd Numbered Years

Even Numbered Years

I	Oak Park	S.P. Arnett
I	Molo	Vinton
II	F. K. White	J.I. Watson
II	W. W. Lewis	LeBlanc/ Maplewood
III	DeQuincy	Reynaud
III	Moss Bluff	S.J. Welsh

Schools under the odd numbered years will host meets: beginning in the school year 2006-07. Schools under the even numbered years will host in 2007-08 and alternate host responsibilities thereafter.

## ARTICLE 13

### 13.0 VOLLEYBALL

13.1 Rules in this article apply to volleyball for girls only.

13.2 Important Dates

Activity

Calendar Week

1<sup>st</sup> Practice

No earlier than the opening date of school term.

1<sup>st</sup> Game

Labor Day week  
Open Date

13.3 Limitations

13.3.1 The season shall be limited to no more than eight games and shall be scheduled so that the 1<sup>st</sup> game could fall on Labor Day week.

13.3.2 No scrimmages are allowed.

13.3.3 Contests will be held on Monday of each week of the season.

## 13.4 Rules

13.4.1 Home team will furnish two adults to serve as officials. One may be used if both coaches agree.

13.4.2 Interscholastic High School Rules shall be used with the following exception/provisions.

13.4.3 Five games will be played between opponents. A game will be played to twenty-five (25) rally points. Only one (1) point advantage is needed to win. After the winner is determined by winning two (2) out of the first three (3) games, the remaining games will be played to twenty-one (21) points.

13.4.4 The net height will be seven feet. (Height should be checked prior to each game by the home school coach and verified by the opposing coach if desired.)