

*Bark River-Harris
Athletic Handbook
2022/23*



GENERAL INFORMATION

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Jason Lockwood *x2116*
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Mr. Travis Depuydt *x2115*
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: Ms. Jeanne Lippens *x2159*

SCHOOL NICKNAME: Broncos
SCHOOL COLORS: Navy & Gold

LEAGUE AFFILIATION: Skyline Central Conference (Western Division)
Football Conference: West PAC B

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS OFFERED:

- *Baseball: JV & Varsity (Boys)*
- *Basketball: JV & Varsity (Girls & Boys)*
- *Cheerleading: JV & Varsity*
- *Cross Country: JV & Varsity (co-op at North Central)*
- *Football: JV and Varsity*
- *Golf: JV & Varsity (Girls & Boys)*
- *Softball: Varsity (Girls)*
- *Track: JV & Varsity (Girls & Boys)*
- *Volleyball: JV & Varsity (Girls)*
- *Wrestling: Varsity (Boys & Girls) (co-op with North Central)*

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS OFFERED:

- *Basketball: 7th and 8th Grade (Boys & Girls)*
- *Cheerleading: 7th and 8th Grade*
- *Track: 7th and 8th Grade (Boys and Girls)*
- *Volleyball: 7th and 8th Grade Girls*

ATHLETIC RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT

The Athletic Code applies to all students who want to participate in athletics. Athletics includes competitive sports, extracurricular activities, cheerleading and pom-poms. This code applies in addition to other rules and regulations concerning student conduct and imposes additional requirements on student athletes and cheerleaders.

*Participation in athletics is **a privilege**. Those who participate in athletics have a responsibility to favorably represent the school and community. Student Athletes are expected to conduct themselves both in and out of school in a manner appropriate to their responsibilities as representatives of the school and district. If a student fails to comply with the terms of this code, the privilege to participate in athletics may be lost in accordance with the terms of this Athletic Code.*

MHSAA

Eligibility for most athletics is also governed by the rules of the Michigan High School Athletic Association and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Athletic Code. In a case of a conflict between MHSAA and this Athletic Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

STUDENT TRANSFER POLICY

Bark River-Harris High School will enforce upon a transfer student any period of ineligibility to which that student would have been subjected as a result of a student or athletic code violation(s) at that student's most recent previously attended school.

A student who transfers to Bark River-Harris High School after becoming ineligible because of a student or athletic conduct code violation(s) at the previously attended school shall remain ineligible at Bark River-Harris High School for not less than the period of ineligibility imposed by the previously attended school. This would be the case even if the student's situation would otherwise satisfy one or more of the exceptions to the transfer regulation of Bark River-Harris High School and the Michigan High School Athletic Association (Regulation I, Section 9), and even if the act which caused the student's ineligibility at the previous school would not be a violation or cause the same period of ineligibility at Bark River-Harris High School.

That student was subjected to the rules and penalties of the previous school and shall not be allowed to escape the consequences of his/her conduct and, in doing so, displace students of Bark

River-Harris High School from teams, positions, events and awards at least until the full period of ineligibility has been served.

ELIGIBILITY

To retain athletic eligibility, an athlete must have passed **6 of 7** semester hours of academic course work in the semester preceding his or her athletic eligibility and must have passed **6** semester hours of academic course work in the week preceding his or her athletic eligibility.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

An athlete must have the following fully executed documents on file at the school office before the athlete's first participation in any activity. Athletic equipment should not be issued and students must not be allowed to try-out or practice until an acceptable signed statement of physical examination and consent has been provided.

1. A current physical examination report (given on or after April 15 of the previous school year) completed by the M.D., D.O., Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner who administers the physical examination and which finds that the athlete has passed a physical examination and is physically able to participate in athletic tryouts, practices and contests; and
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific sport in which the athlete intends to participate signed by the athlete's parent or guardian; and
3. Proof the athlete is covered by medical insurance; and
4. A receipt showing the athlete and his/her parents received a copy of the Athletic Code, understand the terms of the Athletic Code and agree to abide by its terms and conditions.

BEHAVIORAL CONDUCT

Behavioral misconduct by student-athletes will not be tolerated. Behavioral misconduct shall include, but shall not be limited to:

1. Insubordination; or
2. Any behavior or action which is negligently or intentionally injurious to a person or property or which places a person or property at risk of injury or damage; or

3. Any behavior which disrupts the appropriate conduct of a school program or activity; or
4. Hazing, bullying, or harassment of any kind; or
5. Use of profanity; or
6. Exhibition of bad sportsmanship; or
7. Violation of any school rules or regulations or law.

Coaches and school officials will impose disciplinary measures appropriate to the offenses committed. The discipline imposed for any particular offense shall be at the sole and exclusive discretion of the coaching staff and school officials.

Any behavior that results in being arrested and/or jailed or which reflects in a seriously degrading fashion against our athletic or extracurricular programs and accepted standards of conduct may result in a hearing of the Athletic Council (Athletic Director, Coach, and Principal) with the possibility of suspension. Convictions will result in a suspension.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Inappropriate use of social media may result in a penalty of missing contests as deemed appropriate by the Athletic Director and coach.

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO

Except for prescription drugs used by the person for whom such drugs were prescribed in the manner intended by the prescribing medical doctor, the possession, use, distribution, purchase or sale of any alcoholic beverage, drug, drug paraphernalia, controlled substance, look-alike, tobacco or tobacco product, e-cigarette, vaping paraphernalia or any other substance which, when taken into the human body is intended to alter mood or mental state, including any item or substance which is represented by a student to be, or is believed by a student to be any of the foregoing, regardless of the true nature or appearance of the substance, is prohibited in school buildings, on school buses and on all other school property or school-related events at any time. This prohibition shall include all school-sponsored or school-related activities, whether held before or after school, evenings or weekends and shall additionally include a prohibition of use by a student athlete in any instance where the school can demonstrate a reasonable connection to the school program or school athletic program. For purposes of this procedure, students who are under the influence of prohibited substances shall be treated in the same manner as though they had prohibited substances in their possession.

The use, possession or sale of tobacco, alcoholic beverages or drugs in any form (as identified in the above paragraph) by a student affiliated with the athletic program is strictly prohibited and the athlete will be accountable to the violations section of this policy as well as any police actions there may be.

There will be a four-step process for violations involving alcohol, tobacco, drugs and inhalants. The process is as follows:

1. Loss of 25% of current season, if less than 25% of the season is left, the remaining suspension will be served at the beginning of the next season the athlete participates in.

Note: When the percentage of season does not result in a whole number, suspensions shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number.

Note: For steps 1 and 2, if 25% or 50% of the season does not equal a whole number of games, the suspension will be rounded up to the next whole number.

Ex. If 25 percent of a season equaled 2.25 games, the suspension would be rounded up to a 3 game suspension.

2. Loss of 50% of current season, if less than 50% of the season is left, then the remaining suspension will be served at the beginning of the next season the athlete participates in. Mandatory full assessment by certified agency and any further counseling that may be required.

Note: *In regards to step two, an athlete may choose to participate in an athletic sport for the sole purpose of fulfilling his/her suspension, but they must finish the season in good standing or the suspension will not be recognized.*

3. Suspension for one calendar year, starting at the beginning of the season in which the infraction occurred or if not currently in a sport, then one year from the date of the infraction. Mandatory full assessment by certified agency, and any further counseling that may be required

Note: *If the student is a one sport athlete, then he/she will miss a minimum of 50% of that season and if less than 50% of current season remains then the remainder of the suspension will occur in the next year.*

4. Loss of eligibility in all athletics for remainder of school enrollment. After 12 months the student may petition the Athletic Appeals Council for reinstatement if professional counseling has been sought. The Athletic Appeals Council will review each case and act in the best interest of the student.

Students must be aware that anytime they are present at an establishment where alcohol is consumed and there is no adult supervision over 21, in attendance specifically to prevent minors from consuming alcohol, they may be cited with a minor in possession ticket.

Any behavior deemed inappropriate, by the district's personnel, will be evaluated by the administration directly involved and penalty administered.

These steps are enforced on a year round basis and not just during the school year. All costs for assessments or classes are incurred by the parents and are not the responsibility of the school district. There may be help for costs through the Public Health Department for students that cannot afford costs. You would need to qualify for help. This policy will be enforced starting in the 7th grade and will follow the student through high school graduation. It is the responsibility of the school to maintain accurate records of each athletic violation and subsequent punishment, which will be sent with the student upon transfer to another school district in Delta County.

APPEALS

In the event an athlete would like to appeal a suspension or ineligibility period, the following process will be followed.

Each offense will be handled individually by the Athletic Appeals Council, consisting of:

1. Coach of sport involved
2. Athletic Director
3. One or two administrator(s)
4. One school board member of the athletic committee

RULES IN EFFECT

The rules set forth in this Athletic Code are in effect throughout the calendar year and twenty-four hours a day, whether or not school is in session and including vacation periods, and holidays. The rules apply on and off campus and whether or not the misconduct occurs at school or a school-sponsored activity or in some other locale. The rules apply from the beginning of the athlete's first tryout or practice in the first sport which the athlete attempts until the completion of the athlete's athletic eligibility in all sports.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL ON DAY OF ACTIVITY

An athlete who is absent from school after noon (12:00 p.m.) on the day of an activity is ineligible for any activity on that day unless the absence has been approved **in writing** by the principal. Exceptions may be made by the coach:

- (1) for a medical absence pre-arranged with the coach, or
- (2) for a death in the athlete's family.

An athlete who has one or more truanancies or who has been suspended from school may be suspended from participation in athletic activities by administration.

An athlete who is absent from school on a Friday before a Saturday event may be withheld from Saturday activities at the sole discretion of the coach.

TRAVEL

All athletes shall travel to athletic events and return home from athletic events with the team on which the athlete competes by use of school-approved means of transportation. A written waiver of this rule may be issued by a coach or administrator upon advance written request of an athlete's parent or guardian and provided the parent or guardian appears and accepts custody of the athlete. In no case shall a waiver be issued unless the alternate means of transportation anticipated by the waiver will be provided by the parent. Oral requests shall not be honored and oral permissions shall not be valid.

No one other than players, managers, statisticians, cheerleaders, mascots, and/or coaches will be allowed to ride the players bus. The bus driver, after consultation with the coach(es), will request the "unauthorized" person to vacate the bus prior to its departure. Failure by the person to vacate the bus will result in law enforcement being notified to intervene.

Coaches will be in charge of students from the time they leave school until they return.

Coaches are responsible for remaining with the students until all students have been picked up from an event or practice. Students who are riding the bus home from an event will make contact with their parents on the way home giving an approximate time of arrival at a drop off location. Parents must be at the location when students arrive, and must pick up students at ending time from any practices. In the event a parent doesn't show to pick up their son/daughter from practice

and/or a game within ½ hour from the end of the practice/bus returning to the school, law enforcement may be notified.

Cross-references:

- MASB 4350 Student Transportation in Private Vehicles
- MASB 7210 Interscholastic Athletic
- MASB 8490 Interscholastic Athletics Defined as Club or Varsity Sport
- MASB 8500 Interscholastic Athletics, Addition and Deletion
- NEOLA 2431 Interscholastic Athletics

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The following information describes academic requirements for eligibility to participate in all athletic programs.

Students must have a 1.5 grade point average (GPA) (2.0 is a C—1.0 is a D) at the end of each quarterly marking period, with a maximum of one (1) E or F, within each nine week marking period. Eligibility checks will be done on the day quarterly grades are released.

If on the day quarterly grades are released, a student has less than a 1.5 GPA or two or more E's or F's, the athlete will be ineligible to participate (starting on the day quarterly grades are released and following) for the prescribed amount of games according to the chart below:

High School Sports:

- 2 events (games/matches) for Basketball, Winter Cheerleading, Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, and Wrestling
- 1 event (game) for Cross Country, Football, Fall Cheerleading, Golf, and Track

Junior High Sports:

- 1 event (game) for Basketball, Cheerleading, Track, and Volleyball

After serving this ineligibility penalty, the athlete will immediately become eligible to participate, but will be held to the following requirements:

1. The athlete will have three (3) weeks from the day of becoming ineligible (release of grades) to produce written proof to his/her coach that he/she now has at least a 1.5 GPA and has no more than one (1) E or F. This written proof must be approved by a school administrator before presenting to the coach. If athlete proves he/she has met these

requirements, then he/she remains eligible, but must continue to provide written proof on the last day of each school week that he/she is maintaining eligibility, until the end of the quarterly marking period. If at any point the athlete falls back below the eligibility requirements, that athlete will become ineligible for the remainder of the quarterly marking period.

2. If an athlete fails to meet the requirements of at least a 1.5 GPA and no more than one (1) E or F after the initial three (3) week period, then the athlete will be ineligible to participate in any sport for the remainder of the quarterly marking period.

*If release of grades happens in between sports seasons, all in-eligible athletes will serve penalty even if they become eligible before season starts.

*Eligibility for fall sports is determined by the last nine week marking period in the Spring. The three (3) week period to prove eligibility would start on the first day of school in the fall.

*School Administrators reserve the right to override this policy for extenuating circumstances.

*Coaches reserve the right to use past eligibility issues when deciding who to keep on their team. Furthermore, coaches reserve the right to create further requirements and penalties, but not less, if they so choose.

*The MHSAA also has semester requirements that would supersede this policy when applicable

BARK RIVER-HARRIS DUAL SPORT POLICY

Student Athletes will be allowed to participate in no more than two (2) sports during the same season. The following requirements will pertain to student athletes who participate in two (2) sports during the same season:

Student Athletes wishing to play two (2) sports during the same season will have to designate a **Primary Sport** and **Secondary Sport**, in writing, before the season starts. It is the responsibility of the Student Athlete to complete the “Two Sport Contract”, obtaining signatures from both coaches and submitting the document to the Athletic Director for final approval. These designations cannot be changed unless unforeseen circumstances arise and administrative approval is granted. The following outlines how these designations will work:

1. Primary Sport Game takes precedence over anything else.
2. Secondary Sport Game takes precedence over any practice.

3. On days when no game is imminent and practices for both sports will take place, the practice for the primary sport will take precedence. However, coaches will work together to organize practices at different times. Compromise will be crucial amongst coaches for this to work out for Student Athletes.
4. Along the lines of compromise and discretion, a coach will have the right to pick his/her team, or afford playing time anyway he/she sees fit based upon practice attendance.
5. If a student misses a test/quiz/exam for athletic reasons, they will make up the assessment outside of class time. It will be the responsibility of the Student Athlete to arrange the make-up time with teacher

Student Athletes must maintain a 2.5 GPA and be passing all classes to participate in dual sports, i.e. this includes “dual enrolled” classes for college credit. Grades will be checked just prior to the start of each season, and then checked every three (3) weeks after that. If at any point during grade checks, a Student Athlete drops below a 2.5 GPA or is not passing all classes, he/she will be forced to drop their chosen secondary sport and just participate in their chosen primary sport.

School Administrators have the right to refuse an athlete participation in dual sports if attendance problems have been persistent with an individual student.

Student Athletes only participating in one (1) sport per season are held to standards of our original athletic academic policy.

TWO SPORT CONTRACT

Student-Athlete's Name: _____

Date: _____

Primary Sport: _____

Secondary Sport: _____

Bark River-Harris has a policy adopted by the Board of Education of making available the opportunity for high school students to play two sports in the same season. To avoid unnecessary complications, the following contract has been developed. The student athlete must select a priority sport, which simply means that if there is a competition schedule conflict between the two sports on the same day, the athlete must attend the priority sport competition. Below are the details of a practice schedule that all undersigned parties agreed to uphold. Student-athletes are expected to follow all of the rules and regulations set forth by the coaches of both sports and the athletic handbook.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE DETAILS

Signatures:

Student-Athlete _____

Parent or Guardian _____

Primary Sport Coach _____

Secondary Sport Coach _____

Athletic Director _____

STUDENT ATHLETE CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems), shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. In such circumstances, a student athlete shall not practice or participate in a competition until the student athlete provides the school with a written release from a physician (M.D. or D.O.) who has examined the student athlete.

LLS Comment: Concussions are addressed in the MHSAA Handbook. See Regulation I, Section 3.B. Interpretation 20 and the MHSAA Concussion Protocols (p 118 of the 2019-2020 Handbook).

Cross Reference: PRESS 7:305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

Please detach and return to High School Office or Athletic Director:

Parent:

We, (print names of parent(s) or guardian(s) _____),
acknowledge that we have received a copy of the Bark River-Harris Athletic Handbook; we agree
to comply with all of the regulations and policies.

Parent/Guardian Signature(s) _____

Date _____

Student-Athlete:

I, (print name) _____,
acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Bark River-Harris Athletic Handbook. I agree to
comply with all of the regulations and policies.

Student-Athlete's Signature _____

Date _____