

CENTRAL SQUARE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Jamie Grimshaw

Director of Health,
Physical Education & Athletics

CENTRAL SQUARE ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS

Dear Parents/Guardians and Athletes:

Students who participate in any school-sponsored, extra-curricular activity must realize that they have an obligation to themselves, their teammates, and the school community to strive for excellence. Participation in athletics enables these students to value their learning experiences, gain self-discipline and self-control, and exercise mature behavior and judgment. Furthermore, each athlete must realize that they have a responsibility to self, parents, coaches, teammates, and school.

Participation in athletics also demands a commitment, which clearly involves sacrifice and dedication. Respect for one's health and physical development must be an integral part of daily living. Significant findings in health research clearly indicate the harmful effects of using tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and other controlled substances. The Central Square School Community endorses these findings. In addition, the use or acquisition of many of these substances is illegal. Therefore, the following regulations apply to all students who participate in interscholastic athletic activities.

My signature below verifies that:

1. We have read and agree to abide by the eligibility rules;
2. We will be responsible for all equipment issued to the athlete;
3. We are aware of the increased risk of injury involved in participation in athletics;
4. My son/daughter has my permission to participate in any interscholastic sport sponsored by the school district during the current school year.
5. We understand that the responsibility of adhering to these regulations is a shared responsibility of parent and student/athlete together. **These rules will be effective for the entire school year.**

School Year

Athlete's Name (Print)

Signature

Date

Parent's Name (Print)

Signature

Date

CENTRAL SQUARE CENTRAL SCHOOLS: ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

Purpose:

The athletic/extracurricular experience is an integral part of the total educational system. Athletic/extracurricular eligibility is to support the successful scholastic achievement of the student's educational program while they participate in a school sponsored athletic program and/or extra-curricular activities.

Eligibility Implementation:

Athletic/extracurricular eligibility is a continuously running program. This program starts from the time the students enter scholastic athletic programs and/or extra-curricular programs starting in the seventh grade. This policy will remain active for all students enrolled in the Central Square Central School District, even if they are out of season for their sport or extracurricular activity.

Academic Eligibility:

Student participants must fulfill their responsibilities in the classroom to remain academically eligible to participate in our athletic/extracurricular programs. All students, parents, and/or guardians should review the academic eligibility policy of the Central Square Central School District. This policy can be found on the Central Square Central School District website, as well as in the student handbook.

[Athletic/Academic Eligibility Policy](#)

New York State Commissioner's Regulations

In order to participate in any interscholastic athletic activity, a student must be earning a minimum of three (3) high school credits and also be enrolled in Physical Education to be eligible.

Central Square Central School District Requirements

In order to participate on any given day, a participant must be in attendance for at least 1/2 of a student's scheduled school day unless medically excused for an appointment. If the participant requires a medical release for that day's event, the student must return to the building before the end of the scheduled school day. The medical release must be presented to the building nurse before a participation release can be granted. In extraordinary circumstances, a participant may be permitted to participate, provided the coach/advisor requests permission from the building principal and prior approval has been granted.

The athletic experience is an integral part of the total educational system. Student athletes must fulfill their responsibilities in the classroom to remain eligible to participate in the athletic program. All students and parents should review the Academic Responsibility policy of the Central Square Central School District as set forth in the student handbook.

Regulations

While engaged in any athletic program sponsored by the Central Square Central School District, a student athlete:

SHALL:

- Abide by all district policies and regulations set forth by the Central Square Central School District.
- Abide by specific conduct and rules established by his/her coach/advisor.
- Remove him/herself immediately from locations where violations of the athletic/extracurricular eligibility program regulations occur.
- Understand that they are subject to the requirements of this eligibility program throughout their entire educational career starting in the seventh grade. (Violations of any of these regulations, in or out of season, will have consequences for the participant during their next available event(s) and/or season(s).

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS, A CENTRAL SQUARE STUDENT SHALL NOT:

1. Use, consume, distribute, possess, buy, sell, or give away any tobacco products or dispensing paraphernalia.
2. Use, consume, distribute, possess, buy, sell, or give away any alcohol product.
3. Use, consume, distribute, possess, buy, sell, or give away any form of marijuana or THC or dispensing paraphernalia.
4. Use, consume, distribute, possess, buy, sell, or give away any controlled or illegal substance defined by law as a drug or dispensing paraphernalia.
5. Abuse the honor and privilege of being a Central Square participant, understanding that citizenship and sportsmanship unbecoming a participant is unacceptable.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Engaging in a physical altercation
- B. Showing disrespect to others - Insubordinate behaviors
- C. Violate district's policy on bullying, hazing, and harassment. (Including inappropriate use of social media).
- D. Failing to attend disciplinary obligations (detentions/Saturday schools)
- E. Being assigned a suspension from school
- F. Demonstrating any behavior which may reflect poorly on the Central Square Central School District.
- G. Use, distribute, possess, buy, sell, or give away any weapon or knife as defined by law.
- H. Steal, commit any act of vandalism, and/or be charged/convicted of a misdemeanor and/or felony crime.
- I. Damaging school facilities and/or property

Procedures:

It is the responsibility of the entire community, including coaches, advisors, students, and, most importantly parents, to ensure that these regulations are observed. Any violations of these regulations should be reported immediately to the coach/advisor, building administrator, or athletic director. Due process will be followed in handling all confirmed report(s) of any violation of these athletic/extracurricular eligibility regulations. Each allegation will be investigated when factual documentation is presented to the administration which supports a violation of the regulations. In each confirmed case, a full investigation will be conducted and the student(s) in question will have the opportunity to present his/her position(s) on the allegation to the person conducting the investigation. Upon completion of the investigation the administration will render an appropriate dispensation.

Violations of Regulations:

In all instances of violations, the administration will assess consequences for confirmed incidents that have merit based upon an administrative investigation.

Penalties will consist of a suspension from participation in a sport/activity for a duration established by this procedure for level of offenses.

First Violation of Regulation 1:

1. The student will be suspended for the next (1) scheduled regular season (or post-season) contest. The student will be permitted to practice during the period of this suspension from games/activities.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

Second Violation of Regulation 1:

1. The student will be suspended for the next three (3) scheduled regular season (or post-season) contests. The student will **not** be permitted to practice/participate during the period of this suspension from games.

2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

Third Violation of Regulation 1:

1. The student will be removed from the team and or activity for the remainder of the season.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

First Violation of Regulations 2-4:

1. The student will be suspended for the next three (3) scheduled regular season (or post-season) contests. The student will be permitted to practice during the period of this suspension from games/activities.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

Second Violation of Regulation 2-4:

1. The student will be removed from the team and or activity for the remainder of the season.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of the action taken for the infraction resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/activities by the coach/advisor.

Third Violation of Regulation 2-4:

1. The student will be suspended for a calendar year from all athletic participation from the date of the incident.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of the action taken for the infraction resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/activities by the coach/advisor.

First Violation of Regulation 5:

1. The student will be suspended for the next (1) scheduled regular season (or post-season) contest. The student will be permitted to practice during the period of this suspension from games/activities.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of the action taken for the infraction resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/activities by the coach/advisor.

Second Violation of Regulation 5:

1. The student will be suspended for the next three (3) scheduled regular season (or post-season) contests. The student will **not** be permitted to practice during the period of this suspension from games/activities.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

Third Violation of Regulation 5:

1. The student will be removed from the team and or activity for the remainder of the season.
2. Parents/guardians will be notified of infractions resulting in the suspension of their son/daughter from competition/participation.

Reporting Violations:

Reports of alleged violations received from individuals listed below, having personally witnessed and/or physical documentation of alleged violation(s), will be investigated by an administrator or his/her designee.

1. Any district employee and/or school board member.
2. Any adult acting as a chaperone and/or assisting with a school sponsored activity at the request of a district official.
3. Any law enforcement officer and/or police report.
4. A parent and/or legal guardian of the student(s) involved.
5. Any printed documentation of any incident which would be a violation of the regulations.

Reports of alleged violations, from persons other than those listed above, may be investigated if in the opinion of the administration there is sufficient cause to warrant such investigation.

Special Notes:

1. Any violations of the regulations are accrued from the first time that a student participates in any modified, freshmen, junior varsity or varsity athletic program and/or extracurricular stipend activities.
2. When a student is suspended from athletic competition and/or extracurricular activities, the student must attend practices/activity unless the suspension encompasses the remainder of the sports season or the penalty designates otherwise. If the student misses practice/meetings without a valid reason, the suspension from competition will be extended for two (2) additional games/events for the first missed practice/meeting, for three (3) additional games (or a total of five (5) additional games) for the second missed practice/meeting, and for the remainder of the season for the third missed practice/meeting.
3. Coaches do have the discretion to add additional consequences beyond the ones mandated in the Central Square Athletic Eligibility Regulations.
4. Any first violations of the regulations for which a student/athlete self reports a violation will not be penalized, but will be counted as a level of violations for accrual purposes and count towards any future violations.
5. Student-athletes who have been suspended from school (OSS) are **not** allowed to participate in practices or games until they are officially back in attendance at school. If a student is given an OSS by a school administrator, the athletic suspension begins immediately. Contests that are missed during the period of suspension will count towards the required contest(s) suspension spelled out in the information above.
6. Student athletes who have been suspended from school (ISS) are allowed to practice/play as soon as the ISS duration ends.(If a student has ISS for multiple days they **cannot** attend practices or games until they are back in their regular classes and ISS has been served in its entirety) Coaches will have at their discretion the ability to deliver consequences for ISS infractions.

Appeal Process:

Decisions regarding athletic/extracurricular eligibility penalties may be appealed to the Athletic Director. Parents must request an appeal, in writing to the Athletic Director. The appeal must be submitted within three school days of notification of the imposed athletic/extracurricular penalty. The written appeal must state the nature of the parents' concerns with the athletic/extracurricular penalty of their student(s) and the reason that the initial decision should be overturned.

Once a written request for an appeal is received, an athletic/extracurricular appeals board will be convened by the Athletic Director. who will be the facilitator. The voting athletic/extracurricular appeals board will convene within three school days of receipt of the written appeal request. This committee will consist of the student's building principal, counselor, and a coach/advisor (out of season).

Athletic/Extracurricular Eligibility Review Hearing:

The hearing will be conducted only with the presence of the parent/guardian requesting the appeal, as well as the student in question. Additionally, the student can also ask that an additional school staff member be present on their behalf as a non-voting advocate.

The hearing process will start with the reading of the appeal request by the facilitator. The parent and student will then be given the opportunity to summarize their appeal and state why the student should be eligible. Additionally, the parent/guardian, as well as the student, will answer any and all questions of the hearing committee to the best of their ability. The student's advocate, if selected, will also be allowed to offer any pertinent information. Upon hearing the relative information, the hearing committee members, along with the non-voting facilitator, will convene privately and make a determination of eligibility for the student. The initial eligibility status, as determined by the Athletic Director/Building Principal, will remain in effect during the appeal process until a final decision is made via the athletic/extracurricular eligibility review hearing. A final decision of the athletic/extracurricular eligibility review hearing committee will be communicated to the parent/guardian via a letter written by the facilitator within 24 to 48 hours of the hearing.