**Tipton High School**

**Athletic Handbook**



# Statement of Philosophy Athletic Philosophy

Wearing the Blue and White of Tipton High School is an honor that connects students to a long-standing tradition of excellence. Our athletes are entrusted with upholding the legacy of those who came before them while striving to leave their own mark on our programs and record books. Earning the opportunity to represent Tipton means embracing the responsibility of; demonstrating integrity, respect, and discipline both on and off the field.

Participation in Tipton athletics is a privilege. Student-athletes are expected to maintain strong academic performance, uphold behavioral standards, and meet all team expectations in order to remain eligible and fully benefit from the experience.

Our athletic program is designed to develop character, leadership, and perseverance. Every student has the opportunity to contribute in some capacity. With participation comes not only the privilege of wearing the uniform but also a commitment to the responsibilities that extend from the classroom to competition.

Student-athletes are held to high standards outlined in the Tipton High School Athletic Code of Conduct, Tipton High School Student Code of Conduct and the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) guidelines. They are expected to act in a manner that reflects positively on themselves, their team, and our school community at all times.

A strong athletic program fosters community pride and serves as a valuable platform for building relationships and school spirit. Coaches play a critical role in delivering a program that exemplifies excellence—emphasizing preparation, effort, sportsmanship, and academic success over merely winning games. Coaches are also responsible for providing quality instruction, necessary resources, and continuous support to help student-athletes and teams achieve their highest potential.

# Gender Equity Mission Statement for Tipton Community School Corporation

The Board of School Trustees is committed to provide a fair and equitable opportunity for all students/athletes. Athletic competition is an integral part of the educational experience. No student shall be denied participation on the basis of gender. Gender Equity is more than being in compliance with the law. It is a spirit, a personal ethic, a commitment to do what is right and fair for all. Gender Equity means creating and maintaining an environment where all opportunities and resources are fairly distributed. No individual will be discriminated against on the basis of gender.

[Policy](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [2260:](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [NONDISCRIMINATION](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [AND](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [ACCESS](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [TO](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [EQUAL](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [EDUCATIONAL](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F) [OPPORTUNITY](https://go.boarddocs.com/wi/juda/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=C7ZFC53E569F)

# Duties and Responsibilities of the Athletic Staff

The **Principal** holds ultimate authority over the school’s athletic program. The **Athletic Director (AD)** is responsible for the daily management and effective leadership of all interscholastic athletic programs. Key responsibilities of the AD include:

* Supporting and mentoring the coaching staff
* Assisting in the recruitment, hiring, and evaluation of head coaches
* Scheduling athletic contests and securing officials
* Overseeing the maintenance and improvement of facilities and equipment
* Managing athletic records and verifying athlete eligibility
* Supervising staff, programs, and policies
* Representing the school at official events
* Ensuring clear and consistent communication with all stakeholders
* Performing additional duties as assigned by the Principal

The **Head Coach** serves as the leader of their program and is accountable for the overall direction, safety, welfare, and conduct of the team throughout practices, competitions, and the entirety of the season. Head coaches are expected to:

* Operate within the philosophy and standards of Tipton High School
* Organize and coordinate all aspects of their program
* Evaluate and mentor assistant coaches
* Maintain an understanding of all legal and safety responsibilities
* Keep accurate records related to the team and program
* Make staffing recommendations when necessary
* Model professionalism and foster positive public relations on behalf of the program and Tipton Athletics

All **Assistant Coaches**—whether faculty, staff, or volunteers—are responsible for:

* Demonstrating loyalty and commitment to the head coach and program direction
* Fulfilling all assigned duties that support the team and school
* Understanding and adhering to all legal and safety requirements
* Acting as positive role models for students and the community

The **Athletic Trainer**, under the supervision of the Athletic Director, head coaches, and the team physician, is responsible for:

* Providing first aid, injury care, and rehabilitation services
* Overseeing training room operations, including enforcing rules and maintaining a safe environment
* Coordinating physical examinations and preparing athletes for competition
* Accurately documenting all injuries and treatments
* Training and supervising student athletic trainers
* Recommending the purchase of medical supplies and equipment to the Athletic Director

# The Athletic Council

The Tipton High School Athletic Council may assist the formulating and enforcement of athletic policy, in the approval and removal of awards, and in the assessment of suspensions and reinstatement of athletes, if needed. Items go before the council only if the Athletic Department feels necessary or a parent or student/athlete applies to the Athletic Director in writing.

The Athletic Council of THS may be made up of the Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, and a combination of non-coaching faculty, and coaching faculty, to equal seven faculty members on the Council. The Council will also have an investigative committee of three faculty members to work with the Athletic Director when any instances occur which need to be investigated. Finally, the Principal of THS will be the Appeals Officer for the Athletic Council, and the Superintendent of Tipton Community School Corporation will choose an appeals committee according to the policy found on page 10 item A.4. all members of the Appeals Committee will be non-Athletic Council members.

1. The purpose of the Athletic Council is to enforce the Athletic Policies, Code, and Training Rules of Tipton High School.
2. The Athletic Director shall be the chairperson of the Athletic Council meetings. If he/she is not present, he/she may designate another member of the council to chair the meeting.
3. The Athletic Council, when it becomes necessary to enforce the Athletic Policies, Code, or Training Rules will follow the procedures listed in the Rules and Policies section.
4. A quorum (which will consist of 75% of the members of the council present at a meeting) must be present for the Athletic Council function as a body. In case of an emergency, the Tipton High School Principal can appoint another coach or faculty member to fill in for an absent member or members.
5. A written notice will be provided to the parents of any student/athlete regarding decisions made concerning their child if made by the Athletic Council.
6. Any student/athlete has the right to ask for an appearance before the Athletic Council by applying to the Athletic Director in writing.
7. The Appeal Process is explained in the Rules and Policies section.

# Expectations of Athletes

Being a student-athlete at Tipton High School is a privilege that comes with the responsibility of representing the school, the community, and oneself with integrity, respect, and pride. Tipton athletes are held to a higher standard of conduct both in competition and in everyday life.

### **Character and Citizenship**

* **Role Model Behavior:** Athletes are expected to serve as positive role models within the school and the community. Their behavior should reflect integrity, respect, and responsibility at all times.
* **Respect for Authority:** Athletes must show respect to teachers, coaches, administrators, officials, and all authority figures. This includes following directions, communicating respectfully, and demonstrating good sportsmanship.
* **Active Engagement:** Commitment to academic success is a priority. Athletes are expected to maintain focus in the classroom, contribute positively to school culture, and engage in community service or activities that foster personal growth.

### **Accountability and Conduct**

* **Adherence to Policies:** Athletes are responsible for following all rules and policies set by their team, the athletic department, Tipton High School, and the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).
* **Personal Responsibility:** Whether on campus, off campus, or online, athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on themselves, their team, and Tipton High School.

### **Social Media and Digital Citizenship**

* **Responsible Use:** Athletes must understand that their presence on social media platforms (including but not limited to X/Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, TikTok, and group messaging apps) is a direct reflection of themselves, their team, and their school.
* **Prohibited Behavior:** Posting, sharing, or engaging in content that is negative, offensive, derogatory, harassing, or damaging to the reputation of others, the team, or Tipton High School is strictly prohibited. This includes but is not limited to:
  + Bullying, threats, or harassment
  + Inappropriate language, images, or videos
  + Disrespectful comments about teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, or the school
* **Digital Leadership:** Athletes are encouraged to use their platforms to promote positivity, school spirit, and leadership.

### **Commitment to Excellence**

* **Higher Standards:** As representatives of Tipton High School, athletes must embrace the responsibility of maintaining higher standards in all areas of life—academically, socially, and athletically.
* **Consistent Effort:** Success comes from discipline, effort, and commitment. Athletes are expected to prepare diligently, practice consistently, and strive for personal and team improvement.

### **Consequences for Misconduct**

Failure to meet these expectations may result in disciplinary action, which could include suspension or removal from the team, as well as additional school-imposed consequences, depending on the nature and severity of the offense.

In order to communicate the beliefs and needs of the various athletic programs, there will be a Parent Night meeting prior to the beginning of each season. The students and parent/guardians (at least one parent or guardian) of those athletes who plan to participate on an athletic team in some way are encouraged to attend a meeting before each athletic season. Rules and regulations will be discussed and the appropriate paperwork will be distributed and filled out at that time. The responsibilities of the athletes and parents will be presented at this meeting.

# Code of Conduct

The code of sportsmanship is to be followed by the student who participates in athletics: You as athletes are generally the leaders of the student population, and your followers are easily impressed. Misbehavior by a few athletes can ruin the favorable.

## Conduct on Road Trips

On trips, athletes directly represent the community, school, and coaches. Therefore, it is expected that all concerned will act in an acceptable manner when traveling and conduct themselves on the bus or van in a manner in keeping with school rules. Equipment and facilities of the opposing school will be respected and cared for just like personal equipment.

## Conduct in the Classroom

An athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for students and faculty members at all times. Horseplay and clowning are not approved habits of behavior.

# Rules and Policies

All athletes must adhere to the standards and rules established by the Indiana High School Athletic Association (on file in the Athletic Director’s office). Total school policy is a part of the athletic policy; all rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Education for the athletes shall comply with the entire student body. Coaches have the option of disciplining an athlete on their team for breaking team policies set by the coach.

If it becomes necessary to act on the rules and policies of the Athletic Department, each incident will be handled on an individual basis but on a consistent level.

Participation in athletics at Tipton High School is a privilege that comes with high expectations. Violations of the Athletic Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action. While the following progressive discipline model outlines minimum penalties, more severe consequences may be imposed in cases of extreme misconduct, including the possibility of permanent removal from athletic participation for a single serious offense.

## ****General Code of Conduct Violations****

### **First Offense**

* **Penalty:** Suspension from **30% of IHSAA-sanctioned contests** in the current sport.
* **Reduction:** A reduction in this suspension is possible, depending upon the action, if the student arranges such a request within the Athletic Department. The request will be approved after consideration between the principal, A.D. & Head Coach. This may include volunteer hours within the school, in the community or otherwise.
* If the full 30% cannot be served in the current season, the penalty will carry over to the IHSAA tournament and then to the next sport in which the student participates.

### **Second Offense**

* **Penalty:** Suspension from an additional **50% of IHSAA-sanctioned contests** in the current sport.
* **Reduction:** A reduction in this suspension is possible, depending upon the action, if the student arranges such a request within the Athletic Department. The request will be approved after consideration between the principal, A.D. & Head Coach. This may include volunteer hours within the school, in the community or otherwise.
* As with the first offense, if the full suspension cannot be served during the current season, it will carry over to the tournament and/or the next sport season.
* **Additional Requirement:** Completion of **counseling approved by the Athletic Council** at the athlete’s expense before reinstatement.

### **Third Offense**

* **Penalty:** A **one-year (365 days) suspension** from all athletic participation, starting from the date of the violation.

### **Fourth Offense**

* **Penalty:** **Permanent removal** from participation in any Tipton High School athletics for the remainder of the student’s high school career.

## ****Substance Abuse Policy (Rule #5)****

Possession, use, or failure of a drug, alcohol, or tobacco test constitutes a serious violation of the Tipton High School Athletic Code of Conduct. "Possession" is defined as having prohibited substances in one's possession, in pictures posted to social media, also including within a vehicle one drives or rides in, or being convicted of possession.

### **First Violation**

* **Penalty:** Suspension from **50% of IHSAA-sanctioned contests** in the current sport.
* **Reduction Opportunity:** The suspension may be reduced to **30%** if the student completes both of the following:
  + **Athletic Council-approved counseling** (at the student’s expense)
  + **“X” amount of hours community service**, as determined by the Athletic Council.
* The student will also be subject to **mandatory drug testing for the remainder of the school year** at the student's expense.
* **Practice:** Return to practice is at the discretion of the coach.

### **Second Violation**

* **Penalty:** **Suspension from all athletic participation for one (1) calendar year** from the date of the Athletic Council’s decision.
* The student will also be placed on **automatic drug testing** for the remainder of the school year at their own expense.

### **Third Violation**

* **Penalty:** **Permanent removal** from all Tipton High School athletic programs for the remainder of the student’s high school enrollment.

## ****Penalty Guidelines and Calculations****

* Suspensions are based on the total number of IHSAA-sanctioned contests for that sport. Fractional penalties are rounded (e.g., 1.4 = 1 game; 1.5 = 2 games).
* If a suspension overlaps seasons, the athlete must complete the full suspension while fully participating in the carry-over sport through its conclusion.

## ****Additional Provisions****

* If an athlete participates at multiple levels (e.g., JV and Varsity), the suspension applies until the number of contests at the **highest level** is fulfilled.
* If participating in multiple sports simultaneously, the suspension applies to **both sports concurrently** at the specified percentage.
* Athletes **may not participate in practices or games** during any school-imposed suspension.
* IHSAA regulations prohibit suspended athletes from participating at other schools during the suspension period.

## ****Appeal Process****

* If the student or parents dispute a violation or penalty, they may submit a **written appeal** to the Athletic Director or Principal.
* The Athletic Director or Principal will convene the **Athletic Council**—consisting of the Principal, Vice Principal, Athletic Director, and the sport’s head coach—to review the appeal.
* The burden of proof lies with the student and their family to demonstrate why the decision should be overturned or modified.

## ****Important Notes****

* This discipline structure applies regardless of when prior offenses occurred; there is **no grandfather clause.**
* Any change to the disciplinary scale applies to students with previous violations moving forward.

# Transportation

**Transportation to and from practice and home athletic contests is the responsibility of the student/athlete.** Athletes must use school provided or school arranged transportation both to and from away contests. In rare or unusual circumstances, student/athletes may be permitted transportation with a parent/guardian with written permission prior to an athletic contest and coaches’ approval prior to departure from Tipton High School. A student/athlete will not be released from a coach’s supervision until said coach has visual contact with the person given responsibility for transporting the student.

# Conduct and Training Rules

Conduct should be such that it exemplifies good citizenship at all times.

Student/athletes are expected to:

1. Obey rules, respect public and private property, and actively promote the general welfare of the school environment.
2. Maintain courteous relations with fellow students, teachers, and other school personnel.
3. Always be prepared for every class, begin work immediately, and work without disturbing others.
4. Establish and maintain an excellent attendance record.

**Athletes disciplinary referral will be handled as follows:**

1. Violations are to be constituted as those offenses which have been punished by the institution of at least a full day of ISS. The penalty for the first violation will be set or handled by the coach. When a student is assigned ISS on the day of a contest, they are not permitted to play that evening. They are however, expected to attend and cheer on their teammates. If an ISS is assigned on the day of a practice, the student athlete shall report to practice and observe and assist in a manner similar to that of a student manager but will not be permitted to practice. In the case of a student athlete being assigned an OSS, that student athlete is not permitted on school grounds for practice, games or travel with the team to an away contest. An office referral which does not include these punishments is not considered a violation, but is subject to team rules.

**Potential Violations**

1. **Smoking/Vaping:** No smoking/vaping and/or use of tobacco in any form.
2. **Drinking:** In accordance with the Indiana statute, which makes it unlawful for a person under 21 years of age to possess, transport, or consume alcohol, the policy at THS will also cover these three areas.
3. **Controlled Substances:** (Illicit drugs, ie, marijuana, THC, cocaine, LSD, amphetamines, steroids, mood altering drugs (unless prescribed by a licensed physician), and their derivatives).
4. **Over the Counter Performance Enhancers:** Athletes must recognize the dangers of misuse, over use, and abuse of over the counter drugs such as caffeine pills and the like. Athletes must also realize that the intent of ingesting these medications is to enhance performance. Tipton High School does not approve of any method of improving performance on the athletic field other than hard work, good nutrition, and practice of skills necessary and commensurate with the ability of a high school student.
5. **Drug Testing Policy:** Tipton High School students are subject to Tipton’s

Drug Testing Policy if they drive to school or participate in extracurricular

activities. Copies of the policy are available upon request.

1. **Hazing:** Hazing in any form is regarded as unacceptable behavior by the Tipton High School Athletic Department and Administration and will not be permitted. Hazing is defined as any action to initiate, discipline, or intimidate fellow students by means of horseplay, practical jokes, tricks, threats, or acts of violence, often in the nature of humiliating or painful ordeals. Any hazing action taken by a student/athlete against another student/athlete in a physical, mental, or emotional manner to initiate a person into a group, club, or team will not be permitted and will lead to the following penalties: Suspension from participation up to 30% of the season. If the penalty cannot be fulfilled in one sports season, then community service will be assigned to fulfill the punishment. The student/athlete must fulfill these obligations before participation in sports can resume. A second violation any time during the student/athlete's career will result in the loss of the privilege to participate in any sport sponsored by Tipton High School for the next 365 days. A third violation at any time during the student/athlete’s career will result in the loss of the privilege to participate in any sport sponsored by Tipton High School.
2. **Appeals of Any Violation/Penalty:** The Athletic Council feels that training rules are a matter of self-discipline. The best performance the individual is capable of producing comes only when that individual is willing to sacrifice his/her time and effort toward a conditioned training program which will help discipline his/her daily habits during his/her time. The Tipton Community School Administration and coaching staff of Tipton High School feel strongly about high standards of training, conduct, and citizenship of their students/athletes. These standards are essential in maintaining a sound athletic program. The welfare of the student/athlete is the Tipton High School Athletic Department’s major consideration, and transcends any other consideration.

**NOTE: The cause of suspension for all of the above offenses will be by established charges by law enforcement officials or agencies, observations by members of the Athletic Council or a member of the coaching staff, or by admission of the athlete.**

# Definitions

**Student/Athlete**- Any student enrolled at Tipton High School who has a correctly filled out IHSAA Physical form on file in the office of the Athletic Director. **Sports Season**The days between dates of the first practice and the last regularly scheduled contest for that sport.

**Regularly Scheduled Contest**- All interscholastic contests in a sports season (excluding IHSAA postseason tournament).

**Next Sports Season**- The sports season the student/athlete will participate in during the present school year or the next school year.

**Hours**- The hours that a student keeps during the evening can be set by the coach of the sport that student is participating for the betterment of the student/athlete and the team as a whole.

**Practice Rules**- All athletes will report for practice on time. Athletes will not miss practice except when sick or approved by the coach. Practices will end at a designated time set by their coach. In most cases you and your parents will know of the time beforehand.

**Equipment**- Tipton High School will provide equipment and uniforms of the best possible quality for all teams. Equipment which students are allowed to keep after the season will be paid for by the students, or the cost will be shared by the student and the Athletic Department.

1. Current THS athletic equipment is to be worn for practice sessions, athletic contests, and at the discretion of the coach. Also whenever a student is participating in an IHSAA regular season or tournament contest they will wear the designated uniform or they will not participate.
2. Lost equipment, whether paid for or not, which if found later is to be turned in and is not to be worn.
3. An athlete should wear only the equipment issued to him/her and should not permit its use by another person. Equipment is school property, and will be picked up from any unauthorized wearer.
4. Equipment of other schools is not to be worn by THS athletes at any time. Lack of cooperation will result in further investigation and discipline if necessary.
5. Athletic equipment is to be turned in promptly (within a week after the call in by the coach).
6. If any athletic equipment is not turned in, that athlete will be declared ineligible for the next sports season.
7. All lockers are property of Tipton High School. Students are given the opportunity to use these lockers during their athletic season. The student must provide his/her own padlock, and it must be a combination lock. This combination must be given to the head coach.

# THS and IHSAA Rules and Policies

* **Age**- A student who is or shall be twenty (20) years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport she be ineligible for inter school athletic competition in that sport; a student who is nineteen (19) years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA state finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for inter school athletic competition in that sport.
* **Appearance**- Pride in one’s appearance goes a long way toward the development of confidence. Other teams, fans, and officials will be impressed by the Tipton High School’s appearance. Be neat and well groomed at all times. Never be profane in manner or speech.
* **Attendance**- Students shall be in school all day in order to participate in an athletic practice or an athletic contest that day. The exceptions to this rule will be excused absences accepted by the State Board of Education (funerals, death in the family, medical appointments, and certain excuses which are prearranged with the principal or assistant principal in advance of the absence). All day is defined as five (5) class periods which Tipton High School holds each day.
* **College Recruiters**- The head coach in each sport will be responsible for each contact. It is better that the head coach handles recruiting for the school because of his/her daily contact with the student/athlete on a daily basis in their sport.
* **Eligibility**- Participation in competitive athletics at Tipton High School is a privilege and an honor. The rules of the Indiana High School Athletic Association are administered and endorsed by the school.

**Student/athletes and parents are to be familiar with the following rules:**

1. **Age-** In all sports, a student/athlete cannot be 20 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals tournament in a sport.
2. **Amateurism-** A student/athlete will lose his/her amateurism if he/she:
   1. Plays under an assumed name.
   2. Accepts money or merchandise directly or indirectly from athletic participation.
   3. Signs a professional contract.
3. **Awards or Gifts-** A student/athlete cannot:
   1. Receive in recognition any award not approved by the principal or the IHSAA.
   2. Accept or use merchandise as an award, prize, gift, or loan or purchase such for a token sum of money.
   3. Accept awards, medals, recognition, gifts and honors from

colleges/universities or their alumni.

1. **Changing Schools-** A student cannot:
2. Be eligible at a new school if he/she was not eligible in the school from which he/she transferred.
3. Participate in a high school varsity athletic contest in any sport if his/her parents did not apply for a waiver through the IHSAA. Parents will need to meet with the Athletic Director of the new school to begin that process.
4. **Enrollment-** A student will be ineligible:
   1. If he/she did not enroll in school during the first 15 days of the semester.
   2. If he/she has been enrolled more than four fall semesters and four spring semesters beginning with grade 9.
   3. If he/she has represented a high school in a sport more than 8 semesters.
5. **Grades-** Eligibility or ineligibility will begin no later than one week after the last Friday of the grading period, or shen the grades have been finalized by the school administration. Grades will be checked at the end of each grading period by the Athletic Director and double-checked by the head coach of each sport presently in season. The eligibility dates are set by the principal and the Athletic Director at the beginning of the school year when the yearly membership is sent to IHSAA. This information is on file in the Athletic Director’s office.
   1. A student may fail one class and still participate in athletics. That student will

be placed on Academic watch for the following nine week grading period. During that time the student/athlete must attend all available Study Table meetings (scheduled practices and contests are not excused for attending Study Tables). The student/athlete must meet with the principal or athletic director weekly to monitor academic progress. If at any point the principal or athletic director feels the student/athlete is failing to make academic progress or fails to attend scheduled Study Tables, that student/athlete will be declared ineligible for the remainder of that grading period.

* 1. The following grade point averages must be maintained for a

student/athlete to be eligible in sports (these grade point averages are figured for a grading period to determine eligibility) and they will go into effect at the end of the first grading period:

* + - 1. Grade 9 must maintain a GPA of 1.8 or greater.
      2. Grades 10,11,12 must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or greater.
  1. It is the responsibility of the student/athlete and their parents to keep track of their grades and GPA during a nine week grading period. Each sport’s coach will be expected to check on his or her athletes’ class progress once every ten days. This should include:
     + 1. student/athlete grades
       2. provide assistance in helping a student/athlete who might be having trouble in a class find help to try and correct this problem.
  2. Any athlete who fails to meet the GPA requirements or has one “F” may request to be placed on Academic Watch. The request must be made to either the Athletic Director or the Principal. A student/athlete may not be placed on Academic Watch in consecutive nine week grading periods.

1. **FinalForms: TCSC is moving to FinalForms and will no longer utilize Blue Cards:** A student/athlete is not eligible unless they have completed registration appropriate documents in FinalForms. Parents and Guardians may utilize the video at this link to complete registration

<https://bit.ly/FinalFormsSetUp> FinalForms allows parents/guardians to register once for the whole year, using their SMARTphone and sends alerts for missing info and non-compliance. Completed Proper and current IHSAA physical forms signed by a medical professional must be delivered to the school for verification. All other permissions and forms have an electronic sign-off in FinalForms. These forms include:

* + 1. Emergency medical form
    2. Handbook consent
    3. Drug policy form
    4. Concussion form
    5. Cardiac arrest form

Why use FinalForms?

* + - Communication-Administrators send reminders to coaches, parents, and students about upcoming events and changes in scheduling.
    - Correct and Up to Date Student Information-Student data is saved season-to-season
    - Quick access to emergency medical information

The student/athlete is not allowed to practice until everything is approved and marked green in FinalForms. **All forms must be updated and signed each year in FinalForms. Forms do not carry over to next school year.**

Evidence of both, the Consent and Release Certificate and the Physical Form, shall be on file in the Athletic Director’s office prior to the student/athlete’s first practice. Such a certificate will suffice for the entire school year unless some unforeseen problem occurs which requires a new examination by the student/athlete’s doctor.

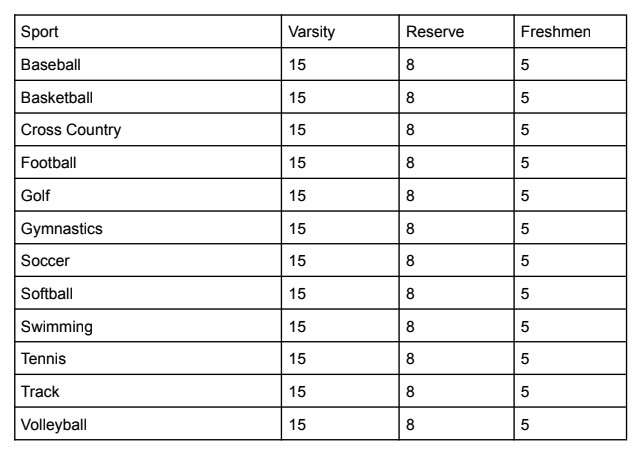
If a student/athlete is properly certified and an unforeseen problem occurs which requires a student/athlete to be absent from school for five consecutive days due to illness or injury, or who are physically unable to practice for five consecutive days due to illness or injury, must present to their principal a statement from a physician that he/she is again physically fit to participate in interschool athletics.

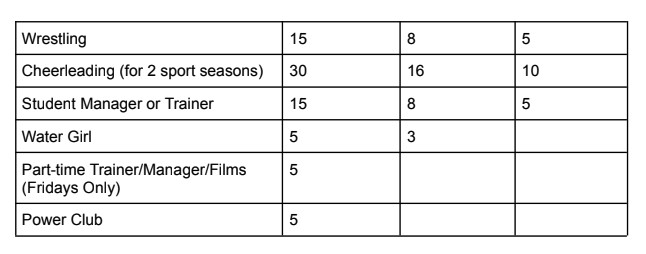
1. **Insurance-** Each student/athlete is responsible for his/her own insurance coverage. The school does not have an insurance plan for student/athletes. Each student/athlete must provide proof of insurance to participate in athletics. Students who need health insurance coverage, or do not have health insurance coverage, are encouraged to purchase school insurance for a minimal amount of money through the main office. This will cover student/athletes while participating in all sports except football.
2. **Participation in Multiple Sports During the Same Sports** **Season**-Student/athletes may become eligible to participate in multiple sports during the same sports season provided the coaches of those sports reach an agreement regarding practice and game participation. This plan must be accepted by both coaches and the Athletic Director before the student/athlete can participate. Multiple sport students/athletes will be subject to the same lettering requirements as single sport athletes.
3. **Trainers and injuries-** We do have an athletic trainer available every day of the week after school. This service is through Franciscan Health Alliance

program and is paid for out of school corporation funds. The Athletic Trainer Certified (ATC) is certified with the State of Indiana, and supervises several student trainers who attend classes in the summer and are routinely instructed by our trainer during the school year. Students are encouraged to report all types of injuries to their coach and the Athletic Trainer.

# Award System

Awards are made on the basis of coaching staff recommendations. An athlete must successfully complete the regular season to be considered for an award. Successful completion means the student/athlete must finish the regular season in good standing with the coach and be academically eligible to receive the minimum award for that sport. To receive a letter or team award they must finish the entire season, which includes all tournament contests in good standing, academically and athletically. Athletes receiving awards receive participation points on the following scale:





Scholastic Achievement Points

Athletes, managers, and trainers will be awarded the following scholastic achievement points according to his/her grade point average at the end of each school year. These points and the above participation points will be used toward earning a jacket, blanket, and/or plaque.

Varsity Award- The first varsity award the athlete will be awarded: White chenille block letter “T”, sport insert on the letter, and 15 participation points. A chenille insert will be given for each varsity letter received after an athlete receives their first varsity letter. If you letter a 2nd and 3rd time in the same sport you will receive a certificate. The 4th year award in the same sport is a wooden plaque. Each letter is worth 15 points. Junior Varsity Award- The athlete will be awarded: a certificate and 8 participation points.

Freshman Award- The athlete will be awarded: numerals for the first sport they participate in, a certificate, and 5 participation points.

**Jacket Award-** An athlete may purchase their athletic letter jacket once they have accumulated two (2) varsity letters, and have finished their Freshman year of high school. The cost of the jacket is paid by the athlete.

**Blanket Award-** Upon accumulation of one hundred twenty-five (125) participation points and earning at least five (5) varsity awards, a blanket with a white chenille block lettered “T” attached will be awarded.

**Plaque Award-** Upon accumulation of one hundred fifty (150) participation points and earning at least 8 varsity awards, a plaque with the athlete’s picture and all awards earned by the athlete will be engraved on it.

# Awards

**Team Awards will be named & distributed on a team to team basis.**

**Patch Awards-** Members of a team or an individual winning conference, sectional, regional, semi-state, and/or state will receive a patch honoring that. This will be in the form of a chenille emblem for their sport. These are the responsibility of the head coach of each sport to order through the Athletic Department. Patches that seem fit to award their athletes will be purchased from their budget, special accounts fund, or by authorizing the athlete to purchase their own patches.

## Special Awards From Families

The following awards have been donated to Tipton High School and are given to the student/athletes who meet the criteria set by the families:

***The David King Memorial Award:*** this award is given to a football player who meets the criteria set, and the football staff chooses the winner. The winner will be announced at the Fall Athletic Awards Program. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name engraved on the permanent trophy displayed in the high school trophy case.

***The Greg Overdorf Mental Attitude Award:*** this award is given to a Senior who is nominated by the varsity coaches, the principal, and the athletic director. These people are reviewed by the head basketball and football coaches, the principal, and the athletic director. The name or names of the best qualified person(s) are given to the Overdorf family to make the final decision. This award is given during the Senior Awards Program. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name placed on the permanent plaque located in the Overdorf Trophy Case.

***The Marty Walker Memorial Award:*** this award is given to a member of the girls track theme. The family has set up a point system for the members of the team to earn during the season. The girl with the most points earned during the seasons is the winner of the award. This award is given during the awards program for the Girls Track, or Senior Awards Night if the winner cannot be determined before the state finals meet. The winner will receive a plaque, and have their name placed on the permanent plaque displayed in the high school trophy case.

***The Brian Melton Memorial Scholarships*** - this award (two equal scholarships) is given annually by the Melton Family to runners who have participated in boys or girls cross country and/or track while in high school, and plan on attending college. Distance runners will be given first consideration for this award. This award will be given at the Senior Night Awards Program.

***The Mike Hoover Memorial Scholarship*** - this award (may be more than one) is given by the Mike Hoover Scholarship Committee to a graduate of Tipton High School who plans on attending a 2 or 4 year college on a full time basis. The recipient(s) must have participated in sports their Senior year or been excused for medical reasons. Preferential consideration will be given to applicants who have participated in sports all 4 years of high school. This award will be given at the Senior Awards Program.

## Minimum Standards for Earning A Varsity Award

The varsity coach of each sport will set the standards which need to be met in order to earn a varsity letter in that sport. These standards will be announced at the beginning of the season so that each athlete will know what needs to be done in order to achieve a varsity award.

Any athlete on a varsity team or reserve team who does not earn a varsity award may receive a reserve award.

Head coaches may recommend a varsity award for an athlete that makes a special contribution to the team but does not meet the minimum standards set.

## Award Policies

An athlete who quits during the season **will forfeit** any chance of earning any participation points and/or other awards in that sport for that season. An athlete who becomes ineligible for any reason during the season **may forfeit** any chance of earning any participation points and/or other awards in that sport. This decision will be made by the coaching staff who would have given the award(s).

***Academic Requirements for NCAA:*** Any student who feels they are in a position to receive any type of monetary help as an athlete in college should contact their guidance counselor, or the athletic director, concerning NCAA ClearingHouse. All prospective NCAA Division I and II athletes must register with the NCAA ClearingHouse. Please see the guidance department for more information. **Note:** Listed GPA and SAT/ACT score represents only the minimum NCAA standards for Freshman eligibility in Division I and II. Keep in mind that these standards do not reflect the admission requirements of individual colleges and universities which vary greatly in regard to GPA and standardized test scores.

***Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT); American College Test (ACT)*** - All prospective student/athletes must take and achieve a minimum score of the SAT or ACT to be eligible as college Freshman.

Financial Assistance (Federal and State) - All college bound students should complete and submit the standard Financial Aid Form to be considered for financial assistance. This is a free application. To be considered for state aid, the Financial Aid Form must be postmarked no later than March 1. Please note that current tax return information is necessary to complete the form.

## Coach/Parent/Student Communication

A vital part of the Tipton High School educational program is the interscholastic athletic program. The purpose of such a program is to develop desirable attitudes and habits towards Sports in particular and life in general; to promote unity and cooperation among athletes, coaches, parents, and administrators and to better prepare young people for post-school competition in society.

## Parent/Coach Relationships

Both parenting and coaching are extremely rewarding but sometimes-difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's positions, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to our young men and women. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student’s program.

**Communication Parents Should Expect From Their Student Athlete/Athlete’s Coach**

* **Philosophy** of the coach
* **Expectations** the coach has for your child (i.e. what is your child’s role

on the team).

* **Locations and times** of all practices and contests (realizing flexibility is necessary).
* **Team requirements**, i.e., fees, camps, special equipment, off-season conditioning, level of skill required.
* **Procedure** should your child be injured during the participation.

**Communication Coaches Should Expect From Parents**

* Concerns expressed directly to the coach
* Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance
* Specific concerns in regard to a coach’s philosophy and/or expectations

**Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches**

* The treatment of you child, mentally and physically
* Ways to help your child improve
* Concerns about your child’s behavior

**Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches**

* Playing Time
* Team Strategy
* Play Calling
* Other Student Athletes

## Procedures For Resolving Concerns

As your children become involved in the programs at Tipton high school, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes.

1. The first step in resolving issues with the coaches to see if your student athlete can resolve the issue. Often a discussion with a coach resolves miscommunication or other issues. Remember part of the process of education and growing up is conflict resolution. Student-athletes are the first step in the process. If this death fails or is simply a matter that needs adult / parent attention, then parents should move on to step two.
2. Sometimes a situation will require a conference between the coach and the parent. These conferences are encouraged if there is a problem. It is important both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other’s position. when conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution of the issue or concern.

a. Call to make an appointment with the coach (765) 675-7431

b.If the coach cannot be reached, the Athletic Director will assist you

in making the appointment

c **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER A CONTEST OF PRACTICE. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.**

1. In the rare event that an issue with a coach cannot be resolved, the Athletic Director may be contacted for a meeting if deemed necessary.

# Parent (Fan) Decorum

**Rule 3, Article C-3-6. Page 15 IHSAA By-Laws**

“A member schools responsibility includes the responsibilities of instituting full and complete team and crowd control measures at all contests…. assuring that the participants, staff and boosters of the member School conduct themselves at all times in a proper and sportsmanship manner, assuring full compliance….. of the member school of all Association rules….”

At a time when Society is experiencing increased incidence of physical confrontations and unmanaged anger, often associated with youth sports, Tipton High School wishes to communicate a philosophical stance of keeping our athletes, coaches, and fans safe; insisting on proper behavior, and continuing our positive reputation as regards to sportsmanship.

We recognize that a majority of our parents and fans set a behavioral example of the highest standard. However, the few who do not, force us to address society's increased volatility and 2 author policy.

As much as our coaches have certain standards of expected behavior (Coaches Handbook), our student-athletes are governed by the Athletic Handbook, and regular students are subject to school rules at athletic events; it becomes incumbent upon us to set standards for the behavior of our adult fans and parents.

Tipton High School will not condone or permit inappropriate behavior directed toward Tipton staff or players, the opposing school and all its representatives, or game officials.

Such Behavior can cause the school to suffer severe sanctions from the IHSAA. Inappropriate behavior is embarrassing to the school and reflects poorly on our values as a community.

It is important that there is a clear understanding of the facets of the structure of High School athletics and the relationships involved.

1. There is no inherent right to participate. coaches will keep those Players whose skills and attitudes meet the needs of the program, as defined by the coach.
2. Likewise, the coach alone is responsible for deciding who plays and how much.
3. By allowing one's child or children to play in sports, the parent is, in effect, turning the child over to that coach for that time period.
4. Coaches are professionals and until proven otherwise, it is assumed that they are operating within the best interests of all student-athletes in their charge. 5. It is inappropriate for a parent to confront a coach after a practice or event. These times are needed for the coach to be attending other duties, and the risk of emotions running out of control too high. Parents should wait until the next day and schedule a meeting with the coach.
5. Making derogatory comments about the officials, coaches, players of either team or other parents and fans at athletic events is never acceptable.
6. Swearing in public at athletic events is never acceptable.
7. Coming to an athletic event intoxicated is not acceptable.

Parents who violate any of the above standards of decorum risk sanctions by the school corporation including, but not limited to, the following:

1. A warning, verbal or written
2. Removal from the contest or premises
3. Banishment from attendance at athletic contests for a set. Of time or even permanently
4. The severing of contact with team personnel
5. Follow up of civil or legal action

**We commend those parents and adults who have always exhibited exemplary behavior and who, by such, have served as positive role models for our student-athletes. We encourage our parents and adults to volunteer, to become involved with the teams, and to be supportive of the attempts of the entire community to educate our youth. We sincerely want to strive to make sportsmanship at Tipton an expectation….**

## Where we let the players play… Coaches coach… Officials officiate…

And let the fans be positive!

* It is important to note that Tipton is a long standing member of the IHSAA since 1904 and we will abide by their rules and regulations in addition to what has been set out here.