

# Tri-North Middle School

*Home of the Trojans*



# Athletic Handbook

**2020-2021 School Year**

## ***School Directory***

Principal	A. Rae Floyd
Assistant Principal	Mathew Worland
Assistant Principal & Athletic Director	Aaron Ritter
School Mascot	Trojans
School Colors	Red, Green, White

### **TICKET PRICES** (Tri-North home athletic contests)

#### **Single Event Entry**

Adult	\$3.00
Students	\$1.00
Family	\$7.00

#### **Annual Ticket**

Adult	\$30.00
Student	\$15.00

(Can be any combination of adults and students in your immediate household.)

**The following athletic programs are offered at Tri-North.**

#### **FALL SEASON**

Cheerleading	(Tryouts in Spring/Summer Prior to School Year)
Cross Country	(Practice Begins Early Summer- Meets August through October)
Football	(Practice Begins Early Summer- Games August through October)
Volleyball	(Practice Begins Early Summer- Matches August through October)

#### **WINTER SEASON**

Cheerleading	(Team Continues from the Fall Season)
Boys Basketball	(Practice Begins October – Games November through February)
Girls Basketball	(Practice Begins November – Games January through March)
Wrestling	(Practice Begins November – Meets January thru March)
Swimming	(Practice Begins January – Meets Feb. & March)

#### **SPRING SEASON**

Track & Field	(Practice Begins March – Meets April & May)
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## ***Tri-North Fight Song***

TRI-NORTH TROJANS STAND UP AND FIGHT,  
 T-N-T, YEA WE'RE DYNAMITE,  
 LET'S SHOUT IT.  
 TRI-NORTH TROJANS, RED, GREEN, AND WHITE.  
 T-R-O-J-A-N-S, TRI-NORTH TROJANS  
 TROJANS, WE'RE ALL FOR YOU!

## **ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY**

The athletic program at Tri-North Middle School is built on a spirit of friendly competition, sportsmanship, and conduct of the highest level. It embodies consideration for the well-being of student athletes, both ours and opponents. It recognizes that athletics is only one component of the total educational process and keep its importance in proper perspective. It recognizes that success or failure cannot be measured in wins or losses but in the effort expended to perform to potential, the sacrifice of self for team goals, the degree of discipline displayed both on and off the court or field, and the extent to which the inherent values of sport are learned.

## **PARTICIPATION**

We encourage every student to participate in the extracurricular athletic program. Being a member of a Tri-North Middle School athletic team is the fulfillment of an ambition for many students. Attaining this goal carries with it certain responsibilities and traditions. Each member of a Tri-North team will be expected to continue to uphold the traditions that have been established over the years. Students, you have inherited a program that values academics success, positive attitudes, and athletic success; you will be challenged to uphold all three aspects of our program.

It will not be easy and it will not happen overnight, but as an athlete you will grow over the course of each of your seasons. When you wear the school colors, we assume you will wear them with pride and will accept the responsibility that comes with wearing them.

## **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR TRI-NORTH ATHLETES, MANAGERS, CHEERLEADERS**

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

All athletes are students first and therefore must maintain academic eligibility in order to participate throughout the season. A student must be passing all of his/her classes to retain athletic eligibility. If a student is a member of a team and receives a failing grade on a report card, he/she will not be allowed to participate in any game or performance for a period of three weeks. At the end of the three-week period the athletic director will recheck the student's grades. If the student on probation has all passing grades at the end of the three weeks, he/she will retain full athletic eligibility. A student on probation who is not passing all classes at the end of the three weeks may be removed from the team. If a student who was eligible with the report card but does receive a failing grade after three weeks (progress report), he/she will receive a warning about possible ineligibility if the failing grade continues with the next report card. If a student is failing a class at the time of tryouts, the athlete may tryout but cannot participate in competition until grades are checked again (the three week check or six weeks' grading period) and the athlete is passing all his/her classes. **If a student athlete has multiple missing assignments or is behind in their daily classwork, the coach or athletic director has, at their discretion, the right to temporarily limit the student-athlete from participation in practices or athletic competitions.**

### **ATHLETICS AND CONDUCT**

Participation in athletics means more than competition between two individuals or two teams representing different middle schools. It teaches fair play and sportsmanship, understanding and appreciation of teamwork, and the fact that quitting means failure while hard work means success. The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. Acting in a manner that brings embarrassment, disrespect, or shame to yourself and/or your school, or that negatively impacts the reputation of yourself or your school is contrary to the goals of our school and athletic program and will carry consequences up to removal from the team or program. Examples of such conduct include illegal activity; non-illegal activity that is lewd, vulgar, obscene, indecent, or that portrays sexual conduct done in a manner whereby the community learns of such activity; or activity that degrades, demeans, or disparages any coach, activity sponsor, school official or student. It is important that this behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

### **PARTICIPATION DETERMINED BY BEHAVIOR**

Participation in athletics means more than competition between individuals or schools. It teaches fair play, sportsmanship, following rules, understanding and appreciation of team work, leadership, and that a good work ethic usually means success.

- Student athletes are expected to have good behavior in their classrooms and other areas of the school. Constant disruptive behavior could result in probation, loss of participation privileges, or dismissal from the team. Consequences at school also carry into athletics as assigned.
- Student athletes will be viewed as goodwill ambassadors for Tri-North Middle School. If a student's conduct during participation in an event is negative in nature, he/she can be removed from competition.
- On trips, athletes directly represent the community, school, and coaches. It is expected that all concerned will dress in an acceptable manner when traveling and will conduct themselves in a manner meeting each coach's expectations and guidelines. All school rules apply when a student is participating in the name of Tri-North Middle School.
- In the area of athletic competition, a real athlete doesn't use profanity or illegal tactics. He/she learns the fact that losing is part of the game, and that he/she should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate an opponent on a well-played game after the contest. However if there is nothing good to say to an opponent, one should leave the field rapidly. Good athletes do not display fits of temper, engage in horseplay, etc. When things fail to go as desired or when replaced by a teammate, a true athlete has complete control of himself/herself at all times.
- Officials in a game are there for the purpose of insuring that both teams receive a fair deal. Officials do not lose games for participants. It is an athletic tradition and rule that no one except the appointed captain talks to the official. He/she should speak in an appropriate tone when clarifying a rule.
- If an athlete is removed from a competitive event by an official for an infraction, such as unsportsmanlike conduct, the athlete will be ineligible for participation in his/her next athletic event. This may carry over into the next athletic season in the event the incident occurs during the final competition of a season.
- An athlete who is suspended from school will not be permitted to practice, participate in a contest or attend a school function until he/she has been reinstated in school and has competed a full day of classes.
- The use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco by middle level students is against the law. Any Tri-North athlete found in violation of this law will be removed from his/her team.

### **PARTICIPATION DETERMINED BY ATTENDANCE**

Students must be on time and in attendance at school for the full day on the day of any event or practice in order to be eligible to participate. Exceptions to this rule are the observance of a major religious holiday, doctor or dental appointments documented with written statement from physician, attendance at funerals, and school field trips. Any exceptions must be prearranged with the assistant principal in charge of attendance and cleared by the building principal.

### **PARTICIPATION DETERMINED BY AGE**

A student athlete may not participate in a sport if as an 8th grader, he/she is 16 years old by the date of the last event of the sport; or if as a 7th grader, he/she is 15 years old by the date of the last event of the sport in which he/she is participating.

### **PARTICIPATION DETERMINED BY GENDER**

Tri-North will follow IHSAA guidelines and rules in regard to participation of transgender athletes. These rules and guidelines state that a student must participate on athletic teams that are consistent with their birth gender.

### **PARTICIPATION DETERMINED BY CONDUCT**

A student athlete who receives an out of school suspension or an alternative to suspension from school will not be permitted to practice, participate in a contest or attend a school function until he/she has been reinstated in school and has completed a full day of classes according to his/her official class schedule. The student may be subject to further suspensions from competition and/or practices. The use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco by middle school age students is against the law. Any Tri-North student athlete found in violation on school property or at a school sponsored event will be removed from his/her team. Student conduct outside of the normal school day and occurring away from school grounds may also result in suspension of extracurricular privileges. Such conduct includes actions which would reflect poorly on Tri-North Middle School or a violation of the law if prosecuted.

Any violation of the athletics guidelines may result in:

1. Removal from practice or partial game
2. Removal from multiple practices or whole game.
3. Removal from Team.

## **GRADE GUIDELINES FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS**

A transfer student will be given the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities until the transfer student's first complete Tri-North Middle School six weeks grading period is finalized. After the conclusion of the grading period, any transfer student will be fully subject to academic eligibility guidelines.

## **PHYSICALS**

Participation will be permitted only after the student has a physical examination from a licensed physician on file in the athletic director's office. A signed statement from the parents is also necessary to be able to participate. Cheerleaders must have physicals also. Forms are available in the office. The physical is valid if dated after April 1 for that school year. If a student who had a physical in another school transfers to Tri-North, he/she will not be permitted to participate until a physical from the former school covering the current year has been mailed or faxed to Tri-North.

## **FOLLOWING AN INJURY/5 DAY ABSENCE**

If a student is injured during practice or a game and requires a doctor's care, the student will not be permitted to participate without the clearance from a certified physician. This must be in writing and put on file with the Athletic Director. If a student is absent five or more consecutive days due to illness or injury, that student must present to the athletic director written verification from a licensed physician stating that the student may resume participation.

## **PRACTICE**

- Athletes must have a minimum of ten practices in their respective sport in order to participate in competitions.
- All athletes must attend all practices unless they have a legitimate excuse and have made arrangements with their coach. Any athlete who is absent from school, due to illness, will not be permitted to practice. Athletes must have a minimum of ten practices in their respective sport in order to participate in competitions.

## **PARTICIPATION IN SAME SPORT BY GRADE**

A student may not participate in any given sport more than once at each grade level.

## **PARTICIPATION IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

All athletes are required to participate in the physical education program. Any athlete who is unable to participate in the regular physical education class on the day of a game will not be permitted to participate in the game that evening.

## **MULTIPLE TEAM PARTICIPATION**

A student may participate on more than one Tri-North athletic team during the same period of time when seasons unavoidably overlap. The following guidelines apply:

- The athlete may not quit a team after the first contest and participate in another sport during that season unless all coaches concerned give their consent.
- The first team a student is selected for has priority over practice and game commitments. Athletes will have a responsibility to each of the teams or squads in which he/she is a member.
- An athlete's participation on a team during the season takes priority over a preseason practice.
- Due to the extended season of cheerleaders, competitions will take precedence if a conflict arises.
- Coaches and sponsors will work together in cooperation with the administration for the good of the student if a conflict develops between athletic commitments.
- Students who participate in two sports at Tri-North which overlap will be under constant review by the athletic director and the principal in order to retain this privilege.

## TRANSPORTATION

All athletes are expected to ride the team bus to and from an athletic event. If a parents/legal guardians desire to take an athlete home, they must give the coach written notice to that effect. Other emergency situations must be cleared through the coach. A parent/guardian may take only his/her student athlete home after the contest. If parents/guardians want their athlete to ride home from the contest with another parent/legal guardian from the team, they must give the coach written notice to that effect. Student athletes must have the MCCSC Emergency Medical Authorization Form on file in the office before they will be permitted to ride an MCCSC bus to any Tri-North athletic event. All athletes will be expected to conduct themselves properly while on an athletic bus. All school rules apply.

## EQUIPMENT

All equipment issued to a Tri-North athlete is expected to be returned in the same condition it was issued. Failure to return equipment or uniforms will result in compensation to the school for replacement.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORMS

All student athletes must have on file the MCCSC Emergency Medical Authorization Form in the office before they will be permitted to ride an MCCSC bus to any event.

## HAZING/BULLYING/INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:

Our school community will not tolerate any behavior intended to degrade, insult, threaten or harm an individual in the school community; such behavior is grounds for disciplinary action. No initiation or hazing will be tolerated. In a group situation, each person is guilty of lending his or her influence to the group and will be responsible for what may have happened as a result of the actions of the group.

Hazing/Bullying: Will not be allowed; those involved shall be subject to disciplinary measures. This could result in suspension or dismissal from activities as determined by the coach, sponsor, athletic director or principal.

All athletes are required to view "Dying to Belong" before participating in their sport

## LOCKERS

If lockers are assigned during the season, athletes should lock up ALL valuables and equipment during practice and competition. Athletes are responsible for the contents of their locker. Do not put anything in the locker which is a violation of school rules or the law. Lockers are not private property and students should have no expectation of privacy in that locker or its contents. Court rulings support that school officials have the right to inspect lockers at any time with or without a student's consent.

## COMMUNICATION WITH COACHES

### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:

- The treatment of your child mentally and physically.
- Ways to help your child improve.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those that follow, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

### Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

**STUDENT CONCUSSIONS**

The School Board therefore directs and requires that before beginning practice for a school interscholastic and intramural sports activity, the coach/sponsor of the activity provide the parent of each student participant with the information sheet on Student Concussions and form issued by the Indiana Department of Education, and require the student's parent to sign and return the document acknowledging the receipt of the information from the Indiana Department of Education on Student Concussions. The coach/sponsor shall maintain an original of the signed document for each student participant and shall not allow the student athlete to participate in the sport until the signed document from the parent is properly executed and returned. A high school student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from play at the time of the injury and may not return to and the coach/sponsor receives a written clearance from the licensed healthcare provider who evaluated the student athlete that the student athlete can safely return to participation in the sport or activity. MCCSC Board Policy 5340.01

**ATHLETIC GUIDELINES**

All athletes and their legal guardian must have read the athletic handbook and turned in all necessary forms before they can participate in an athletic contest. **ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY TO ATHLETIC EVENTS.**



**TRI-NORTH ATHLETIC HANDBOOK  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE FORM  
FOR PARENTS AND STUDENT ATHLETES**

Student Athlete's Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport Participating In (If Known): \_\_\_\_\_

- I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Tri-North Middle School Athletic Handbook and agree to adhere to these policies. I understand that if I violate any part of these policies, I may forfeit my right to take part in the Tri-North Athletic Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Student Athlete)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Athletic Handbook and approve of my child's participation in the Tri-North Athletic Program. I also agree to adhere to and endorse my child's adherence to these policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date