

**2012 - 2013**

**BIG WALNUT  
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS  
STUDENT HANDBOOK  
GRADES 7 - 12**



***Home of the Golden Eagles***



This **STUDENT HANDBOOK** applies to any student who tries out for or becomes a participant in any interscholastic athletic program as an athlete, cheerleader, or student trainer.

**Steve Glesenkamp, BWHS Athletic Director**

**Brian Shelton, BWMS Athletic Director**

In addition to this handbook you should also receive an emergency medical form, the Ohio High School Athletic Association Pre-participation Physical Evaluation, the Ohio High School Athletic Association and Big Walnut Eligibility and Authorization Statement, and an OHSAA Athletic Eligibility Information Bulletin.

## **2012-2013 NATIONAL TESTING DAYS**

### **SAT TEST DATES**

October 6, 2012 \*

November 3, 2012

December 1, 2012

January 26, 2013

March 9, 2013

May 4, 2013 \*

June 1, 2013

### **ACT TEST DATES**

September 8, 2012 \*

October 27, 2012 \*

December 8, 2012 \*

February 9, 2013 \*

April 13, 2013 \*

June 8, 2013 \*

\*Offered at Big Walnut H.S

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**PART I**  
**GENERAL PREAMBLE**  
**PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTICIPATION**

**Section 1. PRIVILEGE OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION**

Participation **in athletics is a privilege, not a right.** Students may participate and receive awards only if they meet and continue to meet the standards set by the school.

**Section 2. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The tradition at Big Walnut has been to win with **honor** and is worthy of the best efforts of students and staff. Being able to participate in the Big Walnut athletic program, like any other **privilege**, carries with it a number of responsibilities.

1. To Oneself - A most important responsibility is to broaden yourself and to develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your high school experiences. Your studies, which should receive first priority, and your participation in extra-curricular activities, both prepare you for your life as an adult.
2. To Your School - Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Our school cannot maintain its position as one of the outstanding high schools unless you do your best in whatever activity you engage. Performing to the maximum of your ability will contribute to the reputation of your school.

3. To Your Community - You automatically assume a leadership role when you participate on an athletic squad. The student body and your school will be judged by your conduct, appearance, and attitude, both on and off the field. Your exemplary behavior will contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride.
4. To Your Family - You also bear responsibility to your family. Always attempt to live up to these ideals and make them proud of you. When you know that you have lived up to all the training rules, that you have practiced to the best of your ability, and that you have played the game “all out”, you can then keep your self-respect, and your family can be justly proud of you.
5. The Students Who Follow - Younger students are looking up to you. They will copy you. Do not do anything to let them down. Give them high ideals at which to aim.
6. Paying the Price - You must be willing to “pay the price” in order to be a champion. That price includes showing personal commitment and sacrifice to reach team goals and to achieve team success. Paying such a price nurtures a sense of pride and loyalty and develops leadership qualities. Make the right choices!

As a student athlete you assume many responsibilities when you wear the red and gold. We sincerely hope that you are strong enough to live up to them. There can be no place on our squads for the individual who does not make an honest effort to do so. Remember, you are building the kind of person you will be tomorrow.

## **PART II**

### **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

The following rules and regulations are in accordance with and in the spirit of those of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and the Big Walnut Board of Education.

#### **Section 1. NINE-WEEK ELIGIBILITY**

Academic eligibility will be determined at the end of each nine-week grading period. Students must maintain passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one credit courses or the equivalent, each of which count towards graduation. **Ohio High School Athletic Association by-laws state that any student not passing the necessary 5.0 credits at the end of each nine (9) week grading period will be ineligible during the next nine (9) week grading period.** No special recitations or tests are to be given for the purpose of making a student academically eligible.

*It shall be the responsibility of the Athletic Director to devise and operate procedures for gathering information on student academic eligibility.*

## Section 2. **COURSE LOAD**

To be academically eligible for any given grading period, the student must have earned credit in courses during the previous grading period totaling five (5) credits per year toward graduation.

- Physical Education I and II, at the high school, are not included in the required 5 credits.
- Any course in which credit has been previously earned cannot be used for eligibility. For example, repeating Spanish I sophomore year when a D was earned freshman year.
- Credits earned in summer school, by tutoring, or by correspondence course do not count toward athletic eligibility.

A student enrolled in the first marking period after advancement from the eighth grade must have passed (5) credits of those subjects carried the preceding marking period in which the student was enrolled. A student who meets this requirement is automatically eligible for athletics during the first marking period of the ninth grade year, provided the GPA is met.

## Section 3. **GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

**In addition to the GPA requirement outlined below, in order for a student to be academically eligible for athletics the student must satisfy eligibility and course load requirements that are outlined in Sections 1 and 2 above.**



**For seventh grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn a GPA of at least 1.25 for the marking the period that precedes athletic participation.

**For eighth grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn a GPA of at least 1.5 for the marking period that precedes athletic participation.

Students are allowed one waiver of the GPA requirement during their 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years.

**Fall season participation for freshmen** is determined by earning a GPA of 1.5 or higher during the 4<sup>th</sup> grading period of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. If the GPA is not met, a middle school waiver may be used if it wasn't used in middle school.

For **ninth grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn at least a GPA of 1.25 for the marking period that precedes athletic participation. A student who earns a GPA of at least 1.25 during the fourth marking period of the ninth grade year will be eligible for athletics during the first marking period of the tenth grade year. **A freshman can use one waiver during one of the four marking periods during the ninth grade year.** The waiver is applied

to a specific marking period, and the grades are then considered as having met the minimum 1.25 GPA.

For **tenth grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn a GPA of at least 1.25 for the marking period that precedes athletic participation. A student who earns a GPA of at least 1.25 during the fourth marking period of the tenth grade year will be eligible for athletics during the first marking period of the eleventh grade year.

For **eleventh grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn a GPA of at least 1.50 for the marking period that precedes athletic participation. A student who earns a GPA of at least 1.50 during the fourth marking period of the eleventh grade year will be eligible for athletics during the first marking period of the twelfth grade year.

For **twelfth grade** eligibility to continue a student must earn a GPA of at least 1.75 for the marking period that precedes athletic participation.

**An additional waiver can be used one time for one of the marking periods in grades 10-12.**

A student's G.P.A. will not be reassessed or refigured during the 9 weeks for the purpose of reinstating eligibility. Students who have an Individualized Education Programs (I.E.P.) are not exempt from meeting the G.P.A. requirements. A course in which a letter grade is not given shall not be figured into the G.P.A. computations. Summer school grades earned may not be used to substitute for failing grades in the preceding grading period in order to meet the minimum G.P.A. requirements. The G.P.A. is to be determined based on the preceding grading period grades that a student-athlete achieves. It is not based on a cumulative G.P.A. Only courses for which a letter grade is given may be used to determine the G.P.A.

Therefore, a student-athlete will need to be certain whether courses taken at a Post-Secondary Options Program (PSEO) should be taken for a letter grade or the pass/no-pass option. Students enrolled exclusively in a PSEO Program must obtain at least one letter grade at the end of each BWHS grading period.

#### Section 4. **DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION**

Failure to comply with the provisions of Sections 1, 2, and/or 3 will result in the automatic **DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION AND AWARDS FOR THE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM** until the deficiencies have been corrected. The appeals procedure outline in Part V does not apply.

## PART III

### NON-ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. Each student participating in the interscholastic athletic program must provide the Athletic Director with the following completed forms:

1. Acceptance of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and Big Walnut Eligibility and Authorization Statement Information
2. Preparticipation Physical Evaluation
3. Emergency Medical Form

Student trainers are not required to have physical examinations. **Until all completed forms are on file the athletes will not be permitted to practice or participate in games.** These forms need to be signed once per school year.

Section 2. You may attend any public or non-public high school in which you are accepted when you enter high school (grade 9) from a 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade school. Eligibility at that school is established by:

1. Participating in a contest (scrimmage, preview or regular season game) prior to the first day of school, or
2. Attending the first five days of school at any high school.

Once you establish eligibility at a high school, a transfer to a different high school will mean you will be ineligible for athletics for one year from the date of enrollment in the new school. There are twelve (12) exceptions to this regulation. To see if you qualify for an exception, you and your parents should arrange a meeting with your principal or athletic administrator.

Section 3. High school students (grades 9-12) who turn 19 years of age and middle school students (grades 7 -8) who turn 15 years of age prior to **August 1, 2012**, are ineligible for interscholastic athletics.

Section 4. After establishing ninth-grade eligibility, you are permitted eight (8) successive semesters of athletic eligibility. The semesters are taken in order of attendance once ninth-grade eligibility has been established.

Section 5. You may receive awards as a result of athletic participation in interscholastic athletics from any source. However, the value cannot be more than \$200 per award.

Section 6. You may not try out, practice or participate in a contest with a non-school team while a member of a school team in the same sport. In individual sports, however, you may practice and try out for a non-school team but may not compete in a contest.

Section 7. The OHSAA has established a policy for students ejected or disqualified for unsporting behavior or flagrant fouls. If you are ejected or disqualified, you:

- Will be ineligible for all contests for the remainder of that day
- Will be ineligible for all contests at all levels in that sport until two regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

## PART IV

### CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in athletics is an **honor** and **privilege** that must be earned. As a participant you should expect no special favors or considerations. You are expected to contribute more than the average student to your school and community. By being a participant in this program, you are indicating you will work harder than the average student and display good self-discipline in everything you do.

All students must, besides remaining **ELIGIBLE FOR THE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAM**, remain in *good standing* during the particular sport season. A season is defined as beginning with the first practice and ending after the sport's banquet or final contest, whichever is last.

**To assist in maintaining the standards necessary to promote a good program, the following Code of Conduct has been adopted. Violations of this Code of Conduct may result in loss of *good standing*. This may mean denial of participation on a team for a specified period of time, and/or the denial of awards, and/or removal from the team.**

## **ATHLETE'S RESPONSIBILITY**

All athletes should conduct themselves with pride and respect at all times so as not to reflect discredit upon themselves, their coaches, or the school that they represent.

Should an occasion arise where an athlete has a concern that relates to the actions of a coach, it is strongly encouraged that the athlete, in a timely manner, request a meeting with the coach at an appropriate time and place. If the student athlete does not feel comfortable in this type of situation or setting, then the meeting could certainly involve the parent, student and coach. It is the desire of the Board that athletes and coaches seek to rectify any misunderstandings by direct discussions of an informal type among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to address the concerns or resolve the situation should more formal procedures be employed, starting with the involvement of the Athletic Director.

### **Section 1.**

Each head coach has the right to determine reasonable team rules, and reasonable expectations of conduct for his/her team. The coach has the right to determine the consequences for the violation of the team rules and/or for the expectations of conduct. These rules, expectations, and consequences will apply to each athlete who is a member of the team.

**Violations of team rules and/or the expectations of conduct by an athlete may result in, but not be limited to, an indefinite suspension from the team, and/or removal from the team.**

- a. In a timely manner, the coach must communicate his or her decision to the parents and file a report with the athletic director.
- b. Neither suspension nor removal of an athlete from the team by the coach is subject to appeal. **(Part V, page 19 is not applicable to an athlete who has been disciplined by the coach for the violation of team rules and/or expectations of conduct.)**

**Section 2. The following offenses are specifically prohibited during the sports season:**

- a. Use or possession of any tobacco or smoking products, including snuff.
- b. Drinking or possession of any alcoholic beverages.
- c. The use or possession of any drug, narcotic, or substance termed illegal by the laws of the State of Ohio unless directly prescribed by a licensed physician.

**VIOLATIONS will result in denial of participation for the remainder of the sport season and denial of awards at the sports banquet. In an effort to intervene at an early stage and help educate the athlete, an assessment will be required before the student is allowed to return to the sports program.**



Section 3. Hazing in athletic activities is prohibited. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation toward any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk for causing mental or physical harm to any person. No student athlete shall plan, encourage, or engage in any form of hazing in practices, competition, or performances. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subject to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

**VIOLATIONS may result in denial of participation for the remainder of the sport season and/or denial of awards at the sports banquet.**

Section 4. Since athletics are a **privilege**, Big Walnut holds athletes to a higher standard of conduct. Therefore, anytime an athlete is being disciplined by the school administration or charged with a misdemeanor or felony by the legal system, the Athletic Board will review the case to determine what the consequences will be in regards to the athlete's participation. Illegal behavior includes, but is not limited to theft, vandalism, assault, and the sale of drugs, narcotics, or substances termed illegal by the State of Ohio. **This section of the Code is in effect for the entire calendar year.**

**VIOLATIONS may result in denial of participation in practice and/or games for the length of time the Athletic Board deems appropriate.**

Section 5. An athlete may be DENIED PARTICIPATION AND RECEPTION OF AWARDS by the following procedures:

A. When a violation is proven without question (as deemed by the Athletic Director), the Athletic Director will notify the athlete, his/her parents, and the coach immediately. Removal is immediate and no hearing will be held.

B. If the violation is alleged

1. The student is to be personally notified in writing by the Athletic Director of the alleged violation within five (5) school days. If the violation occurs during the summer months the Athletic Department reserves the right to waive the five (5) day notification period and will notify the athlete of the violation on or before the first day of school.

2. If the alleged violation is disputed, a hearing before the Athletic Board is to be held within five school days of notice to the student and the student's parents or guardians. The athlete shall be notified by any reasonable means of the time and place of the hearing.

3. No testimony shall be admissible except by personal appearance.

4. Those present at the hearing shall be the Athletic Director, coaches, the student, the student's parent/guardian, and any witnesses called by either the school or student.

5. The question of denied participation will be decided by the Athletic Director upon the recommendation of those school personnel present at the hearing.

6. When an athlete has been **DENIED PARTICIPATION AND RECEIPT OF AWARDS**, a notice of denial of participation will be sent to the legal guardian, and a copy shall be handed to the student personally or sent by certified mail. After this has been done, notification of ineligibility shall be considered fulfilled.

7. Certified mail returned to the Athletic Director, as “refused” will be forwarded by regular mail, fulfilling the obligation of proper notification.

**PART V**  
**APPEAL PROCEDURE**  
**FOR CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS**

**NOTE: DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION REMAINS IN EFFECT THROUGHOUT THE APPEALS PROCEDURE.**

Section 1. The athlete may appeal **DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION** by requesting a hearing before the Appeals Committee of the Athletic Board. This committee shall consist of the assistant principal, athletic director, two

head coaches who were not in attendance at the initial hearing, and two faculty members chosen by the assistant principal.

The request for appeal must be made in writing to the Athletic Director within five (5) school days after receipt of the notice of ineligibility.

Section 2. The Athletic Director will convene the Appeals Committee within five (5) school days unless the student or legal guardian requests an extension. The Athletic Director will notify the legal guardian and student by certified mail of the time, date, and place of the hearing. Certified mail returned to the Athletic Director, as “refused” will be forwarded by regular mail, fulfilling the obligation of proper notification.

Section 3. The hearing of the Appeals Committee will be conducted as follows:

a. Relevant facts presented by the student, legal guardian, and the Athletic Director to the Appeals Committee.

b. Deliberation by the Appeals Committee members after all visitors have been excused, resulting at that time in a decision in the form of a recommendation to the principal.

c. Quorum shall be at least one-half (1/2) the members of the Appeals Committee.

d. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be by majority vote of those members present throughout the entire hearing, and shall be delivered within 24 hours to the principal.

e. The principal shall reach a final decision within two (2) school days of receipt of the Appeals Committee's recommendation and shall notify the athlete and the legal guardian within three (3) school days of his decision.

f. The decision of the principal may be further appealed to the Big Walnut Board of Education. A written request for such appeal must be received at least five (5) days prior to the next regular monthly meeting of the Big Walnut Board of Education, but not later than twenty (20) days following receipt of the decision. Any decision by the Big Walnut Board of Education will be final.

**PART VI**  
**GENERAL INFORMATION**  
**FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND ATHLETES**

Section 1. **TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES** - When leaving school grounds for athletic contests each coach is responsible for their athletes. If a stat, manager, cheerleader, helper, or athlete wants to ride home with a parent, they must have a signed transportation release form. This form is to be signed by the coach and the parent. A coach **will not release** a student to ride home with either another parent or student. Athletes **do not drive** to and/or from away games or scrimmages.

If parents do take students home from away contests according to the adopted procedure, the students are not covered under the catastrophic insurance policy of the OHSAA.

Section 2. **OHSAA CATASTROPHIC INSURANCE** is only in effect during the sport season and does not cover out-of-season activities such as, but not limited to, open gym and summer camps.

Section 3. **ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN COLLEGE SPORTS**

Many college programs are regulated by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), an organization founded in 1906 that has established rules on eligibility, recruiting, and financial aid. The NCAA has three membership divisions—Division I, Division II, and Division III. Institutions are members of one or another division according to the size and scope of their athletic programs and whether they provide athletic scholarships.

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and you wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse was established by the NCAA member institutions in January 1993. The Clearinghouse ensures consistent application of NCAA initial-eligibility requirements for all prospective student athletes at all member institutions. For more information contact the guidance department.

Section 4. **OUT-OF-SEASON ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES** It is prohibited for a coach to require an in-season athlete to attend activities for another athletic

season. If the in-season and out-of-season coaches reach a mutual agreement, the athlete can attend activities related to an out-of-season sport.

Section 5. **WEIGHT ROOM SUPERVISION** Athletes are not to be in the weight room without the proper supervision of a board-approved coach. Athletes in season have priority over athletes who aren't in season.

Section 6. **PARTICIPATION**

A. After participating in practice for one week or more, a student may not switch to another sport during that sport season without permission of the head coaches of both sports and the athletic director. An athlete may not switch to another sport or begin a new sports season until all equipment has been returned or the athletic department has received payment for the lost or damaged equipment. If an athlete quits or is dismissed from a team, he/she may not begin conditioning with another team until the conclusion of the season that he/she started, unless they receive permission of the head coach of both sports and the athletic director.

B. An athlete may participate in only one sport per season unless the coaches reach a mutual agreement regarding the athlete's obligations and commitment to each sport.

## PART VII

### ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Guidelines for athletic participation in practice and contests as a result of illness or other absences are as follows:

1. **PRACTICE** If an athlete is ill and comes to school, he/she is to be here at least 3 periods in order to practice. If an athlete leaves school anytime during the day as a result of illness, he/she is not to return for practice that evening.
2. **PRACTICE** Students who are absent from school for a reason other than illness may practice at the discretion of the coach. Each coach is to develop guidelines to cover absence from practice for reasons other than illness. The guidelines are to consider reasons and courses of action for unexcused absences. The rules are to be fair, consistent, and administered equally to all.
3. **GAME** Athletes must be in school at least three periods of the school day on the day of an athletic contest or the preceding day if the contest is played on a Saturday.
4. **GAME** Students who did not attend at least three periods on the day of a game or the preceding day, if the contest is played on a Saturday, must secure permission from the athletic director in order to participate in the athletic contest.
5. **TARDINESS TO SCHOOL** - Arriving home late on a school night because of an athletic event or practice is no excuse to be late to school on the following day. Be at school on time!



## **PART VIII**

### **ATHLETIC AWARD SYSTEM**

Section 1. **MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS** – All participants will receive a certificate and a pin for each sport played, and a one time letter after completing their first sport of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Section 2. **FRESHMAN AWARDS** - All participants will receive a certificate and three inch numerals indicating their year of graduation.

Section 3. **RESERVE AWARDS** - Reserves will receive a five-inch interlocking “BW” and an emblem for the sport. Only one five-inch “BW” will be issued to each participant.

#### Section 4. **VARSITY AWARDS**

- a. A bronze medallion is given for the first varsity award
- b. A silver medallion for the second varsity award
- c. A gold medallion for the third varsity award
- d. The fourth year award is a senior blanket

Criteria for earning varsity awards at Big Walnut High School are as follows:

**BASEBALL** - playing in one-half of the total innings played by the varsity team during the entire season. The head coach can make an exception for pitchers.

**BASKETBALL** - playing in one-half or more of the total quarters of scheduled varsity games during the entire season.

**BOWLING** – participation in half (1/2) of the regularly scheduled matches.

**CHEERLEADING** - participate in one-half or more of the total quarters of scheduled varsity games during the entire season. Cheerleaders will receive separate letters for football and basketball seasons.

**CROSS COUNTRY** - score in one-half of the total meets.

**FOOTBALL** - playing in one-half of the quarters of scheduled varsity games. Exceptions can be made for specialists.

**GOLF** - must play in one-half of the varsity meets.

**GYMNASTICS** - participation in 1/2 of the regularly scheduled meets or competing in the district meet.

**SOCCER** - playing in at least one-half of the total halves.

**SOFTBALL** - playing in one-half of the total innings played by the varsity team during the entire season.

**SWIMMING/DIVING** - participation in 1/2 of the regularly scheduled meets or competing in the district meet.

**TENNIS** - must participate in one-half of matches or place in the OCC or District.

**TRACK** - score enough points to average two points a meet or place in the OCC or District.

**WRESTLING** - need 10 total points to letter, earning 1 point per participation.

**VOLLEYBALL** -play in one-half or more of the total time of scheduled games of the varsity team during the entire season.

**MANAGERS** - will receive a certificate and a “Manager” pin for every year of satisfactory service.

**STATISTICIANS** - will receive a certificate and a “Stat” pin for every year of satisfactory service.

**STUDENT TRAINERS** - will receive a certificate and a medallion for every year of satisfactory service as recommended by the athletic trainer.

A senior athlete who has been out for any of the above sports for two years or more and has failed to earn a varsity award will receive a first year medallion in the participating sport.

Section 4. **SCHOOL VARSITY JACKETS** - The Big Walnut varsity letter jacket may be purchased by varsity award winners only—bronze, silver, gold medals.

Section 5. **SPECIAL AWARDS**

a. **VARSITY PLAQUE** - is issued to senior athletes who have earned three varsity awards in one sport or four varsity awards in any combination of varsity sports. Cheerleaders are issued a varsity plaque by earning 3 varsity cheerleading letters in 3 different school years.

b. **VARSITY BLANKET** - is issued to senior athletes who earn four varsity awards in one sport or six varsity awards in any combination of varsity sports.

c. **GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD** - will be presented to a senior with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or better and is based on the following criteria:

40% - character

30% - scholarship

30% athletic ability

The award is based on the decision of the coaching staff.

d. Particular awards for each sport will be issued at the coach's discretion.

**PART IX**  
**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY FEE**

The Big Walnut Board of Education has approved the following extra-curricular fees.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Athletics \$150 per season

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Athletics \$75 per season

District Family Cap \$300

Middle School Family Cap \$150

\*Checks are to be made payable to Big Walnut Local Schools.

The intent of the extra-curricular fee is to help defray the cost of the extra-curricular programs. If a student qualifies for free lunches, the fee is waived. If a student qualifies for reduced lunches, the fee is reduced by half. There is no payment plan.

The participation fee for athletics must be paid (or the approved application for free or reduced lunches must be on file) before an athlete can compete as defined by the Athletic Director. The fee is non-refundable except in cases where the student/athlete becomes physically unfit to perform as

designated by a physician or other reasons deemed appropriate by the athletic director. Refunds will be pro-rated.

The following items pertain to clarification regarding the extra-curricular activity fee:

- **Does not guarantee playing/participating time.**
- **Does not result in control over any conditions of the team or activity.**
- **Is non-refundable except as indicated above.**
- **Does not alter policies of Big Walnut High School, Big Walnut Middle School, the Big Walnut Board of Education, or the Ohio High School Athletic Association.**
- **Does not alter or affect the district's athletic code or individual team/activity rules.**

Questions regarding the policy or its procedures should be directed to:

Big Walnut High School            Steve Glesenkamp            740-965-7778

Big Walnut Middle School        Brian Shelton                740-965-3006

**PART X**  
**GLOSSARY OF IMPORTANT TERMS**

**ATHLETE** - An athlete is defined by the board as any student who has tried out for or participated in the Interscholastic Athletic Program, either as a player, cheerleader, or student trainer.

**ATHLETIC BOARD** consists of the athletic director and the coaches who have been approved by the Board of Education for the current school year.

**DAYS** - The Big Walnut Board of Education, in approving the student handbook, wanted to make it clear that all references to “days” in this handbook refer to “school days” whether or not the present wording of the handbook says so specifically.

**GOOD STANDING** denotes compliance with any provisions of the athletic handbook.

**POSSESSION** means either (A) physical control of alcohol, mind-altering chemicals, build-altering chemicals or tobacco; or (B) permitting other persons to possess the aforementioned substances in locations (automobile, home, etc.) for which the student has responsibility, in the absence of a responsible adult to exercise meaningful supervision.

**SPORT SEASON** begins with the first practice and ends after the sport’s awards banquet or final contest.