



Adding or Eliminating Interscholastic Sports or Clubs

The interscholastic sports program for The Clinton Public Schools exists to meet the athletic needs and interests of high school students and to provide an appropriate level of athletic participation.

To this end, the means to determine if a given sport should be considered an Interscholastic Sport Team or a "Club" must be orderly and consistent. Therefore, the athletic director and the school administration will make a recommendation as to whether or not a sport should be considered for club status and, subsequently, for a change in status from "club" to "team" (or vice-versa) to the Superintendent of Schools based on the following criteria. A *decision* that a sport become a club, a club become a team, or a team become a club is to be *made* by the Board of Education.

A. Criteria

1. It will meet the athletic needs and interests of The Morgan School students (e.g., a petition of students interested in participating; student participation large enough in numbers and size to allow for safe competition);
2. Its creation will not unduly strain the ability of other existing sports to field teams or clubs of sufficient quality and size to remain competitive;
3. The *proponents* are able to fund the expenses of operating the club (coaches, supplies, uniforms, officials, transportation, etc.) by presenting a budget and a plan as to how sufficient revenues to cover the expenses of operating the program will be *provided*; and
4. A plan has been developed for where and when the club will practice and against whom it will be able to compete adequately and safely.

B. A Club Sport

1. The Clinton Public School system will select, evaluate, and disburse the salary of the certified coach.
2. The Athletic Director will be responsible for collecting the necessary revenues from the *proponents* in order to meet the club's financial responsibilities.
3. The Athletic Director and the school administrator will terminate the operations of the club if the club has not produced sufficient funds to cover its expenses or if there are not enough students to participate.
4. The Athletic Director and the school administrator will periodically review any club sport as to its continued viability and will recommend to the Board any needed change in status.



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5. A club sport may be changed from "club" status to "team" status by action of the Board of Education. In order for the Board to make this change, the club, for at least one year, shall have:
 - a. maintained a level of student participation needed to field a team including reserve players if needed;
 - b. funded the expenses of operating the club;
 - c. had a safe and appropriate place to practice and play its games; and
 - d. had a sufficient number of teams against whom it competed.

C. Interscholastic Sport

The Athletic Director and the school administrator will recommend that the status be changed to "club" status or even dropped completely if an existing interscholastic sports team:

1. Fails to maintain a level of student participation needed to field a team including reserve players if needed,
2. Does not have a safe and appropriate place to practice and play its games, *or*
3. Does not have a sufficient number of teams against whom it can compete.

The Board of Education may eliminate a sport through its discretionary powers for reasons including, but not limited to, financial considerations, behaviors of team members, and to meet Federal and State regulations relating to gender equity.

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A group or individual may request that a sport be added to those approved at the high school level. Once a request has been made, the Athletic Director and school administrator will ensure that the below-stated process is followed.

1. Proposal made to the Athletic Director and school administrator in person and followed up in writing.
2. Athletic Director and school administrator meet to discuss proposal.
3. Athletic Director and school administrator state their position in writing and confer with the Superintendent.
4. Athletic Director and school administrator responds to petitioner and offers explanation of decision.
5. Petitioner(s) may ask, in writing, that the Superintendent review the decision of the athletic director and school administrator
6. The Superintendent determines whether or not to submit the request to the Board of Education and responds in writing to the petitioner.
7. If petitioner is not satisfied with the Superintendent's decision, the petitioner may request, in writing, that the Board of Education review the Superintendent's decision.
8. The Board of Education's decision is final.

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