**Citizenship Form**

The following citizenship agreement has been adopted by the Potosi R-3 School District. This completed form is required for participation in all athletic/activity programs.

**POTOSI R-3 SCHOOLS**

**Citizenship Guidelines for Athletic/Activity Participation**

To be eligible to participate in school athletics/activities is a privilege--not an inherent right--granted to students who meet the eligibility standards as set forth by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). According to the MSHSAA eligibility standards, athletes/participants must be good citizens in their school and community. More specifically, any student who represents his or her school in interscholastic activities must be a creditable citizen and be judged so by the citizenship standards of this district. A student whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon himself or herself or his or her school is not considered a creditable citizen. His or her conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline.

It is understood that citizenship eligibility cases are handled on an individual basis depending on district policy at the school level by the coach, athletic director, principal, parents and player. However, it is also felt that system wide guidelines will assist in the uniform handling of such cases.

**(1) Athlete/Participant Under Arrest**: If an athlete/participant is arrested for a misdemeanor or a felony, or for conduct that, if committed by an adult, would be a misdemeanor or felony, the athlete/participant will not be allowed to represent the district in interscholastic activities until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied per **MSHSAA by-law 2.2.2**.Each student is responsible to notify the school of any and all situations that would affect his/her eligibility under **MSHSAA by-law 2.2.2**. If the student does not notify the school prior to the school’s discovery, then the students shall be ineligible for up to 365 days from discovery, pending review by the Board of Directors per **MSHSAA by-law 2.2.5.** Parents and the athlete/participant are to be informed of any problem through a meeting with the head coach, athletic director, and the principal, if the circumstances warrant his or her presence. Penalties for violations are:

(A)       Misdemeanor (Excluding Minor Traffic Violations) -- Up to six months maximum restriction.

(B)       Felonies -- Up to permanent suspension.

Decisions related to penalties will be made jointly by the administration and head coach and following district policies.

**(2) Use of Alcohol, Non-Prescribed Drugs and Tobacco**

Athletes/participants shall not use or be in possession of alcoholic beverages, non-prescribed drugs or tobacco (this includes any type of vaping or e-cigarette device). If an athlete/participant violates this regulation, his or her violation will be reviewed by the head coach, athletic director, and, in some cases, the principal. Following the review, the athlete/participant and his or her parents will be notified of the decision.

(A)       First Offense -- Two weeks restriction from participation in contests (athletes are still expected to attend practices to remain on team).

(B)       Second Offense -- Restriction from participation (practice and contests) for the remainder of thatsport season.

(C)       Third Offense -- Restriction from participation (practice and contests) for the remainder of the school year.

All offenses could be referred for prosecution.

**(3) Athlete/Participant Involved in Misconduct While at School**

This includes truancy, disrespect to teacher, fighting, use of abusive language, etc. After a review by the head coach, athletic director and principal, the athlete/participant and parents will be notified of the results. Penalties will range from a reprimand and placing the athlete/participant on probationary status, to temporary or permanent restriction from representing the school in interscholastic activities and practices. The seriousness of the case and the attitude of the athlete/participant will determine the penalty. Reoccurrences will require that permanent restriction by considered.

**(4) Out-of-Town Trips**

Athletes/Participants are expected to accompany the team on all out-of-town trips, using the mode of transportation arranged for by the district. Any deviation from this requires the following:

(A)       A request by the parents or guardians be made personally and approved by the coach/sponsor and athletic director to release the athlete/participant (to the parent or guardian only).

(B)       Under emergency conditions, the coach in charge of the team will use his or her best judgment in approving any requests.

(C)       If there is any doubt about the circumstances surrounding such a case, the athlete/participant is to remain with the team.

Requests of this nature should be rare and should be discouraged. Teams should go and come as a group. Misconduct on out-of-town trips will result in disciplinary measures being taken.

**(5) Unsportsmanlike Acts**

Such acts during a contest resulting in ejection will, in some cases, cause the athlete/participant to be restricted from representing the district for at least the next contest. An athlete/participant who commits such an act but is not ejected may also be subject to at least a one game restriction from representing school. Each case of this type is to be reviewed by the head coach, athletic director and principal before a final decision is reached.

**(6) Due Process**

Athletes/Participants will have the opportunity to express their side of any incident in which they may be involved. If the athlete/participant is dissatisfied with any decisions, he or she has the right to appeal through the following channels:

(A)      School Administration (Principal, Athletic Director)

(B)      Superintendent

(C)      Board of Education

Appeals to the superintendent or above are to be in writing and submitted within ten days of the previous decision. The body to which the appeal is made will, within ten days of receipt of the appeal, establish a hearing date.

The review steps provided by this section are gratuitous only, and in no way establish a liberty or property interest in participation in athletics/activities.

**Review of Additional Incidents**

Any incidents which occur that are not covered by these guidelines will be reviewed on an individual basis and decisions related to athletic/activity participation will be made jointly by the district administration and head coach.

**Acknowledgment Requirement for Participation**

Student athletes/participants and parent or guardian shall be made aware of provisions of this policy, shall acknowledge receipt and understanding of the guidelines, and shall acknowledge same in writing before the athlete/participant will be allowed to participate.

Acknowledgment shall be recorded in this form:

**I acknowledge receipt of and have studied and understand the** **Citizenship Guidelines for Participation in Athletics of the Potosi R-III School District.**

Signature of Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This sheet must be signed by the parties indicated and returned to the head coach of the appropriate sport before an athlete will be allowed to participate.