

New Trier Athletic Department Philosophy dealing with participation

At New Trier the goals of the interscholastic athletics program are to provide participation opportunities when facilities and staffing can sustain those opportunities and to promote both positive sportsmanship and the value of competition. "New Trier Athletic programs will provide an experience that fosters an emotional, physical and intellectual foundation for growth and well-being. The New Trier institutional motto, *"to commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity..."* is a reminder that these programs provide a direct connection to the quality of our students' educational experiences now and in the future"*.

**Introduction to New Trier Athletic Mission Statement, August 2008*

Selection to teams

New Trier recognizes that safety, facility availability, sport culture, competition opportunities and coaching staff size as well as the specific nature of some sports may require squad size limitations be imposed on some sports in order to conduct a safe and educationally viable program. When squad size limitations occur, a competitive tryout will be conducted to determine the make-up of the team. The results of the tryout will be announced in a timely manner. Individual team coaches will be responsible to establish and to announce guidelines for their own team's try-out procedures to the prospective squad members at the start of the try-out period. Pertinent league rules may affect selection to teams. Because the necessity to restrict squad sizes in any sport may vary from year to year, students and parents may contact the Head Coach in any program to receive current information on squad sizes and the selection process. Teams that must impose squad size limitations are indicated in this document and in the New Trier Athletic Information document.

Playing time as a member of a team at the freshman level

It is the goal of the athletic department and coaching staffs at the freshman level to provide an opportunity for students to participate in each contest. Student-athletes EARN the privilege to play increasing amounts of time. At the discretion of the coach, student athletes who have not attended practice consistently or whose efforts in practice are detrimental to the team dynamic may not receive playing time.

At the Junior Varsity and Sophomore levels student-athletes EARN the privilege to play in each contest. Skill development is more specifically linked to playing time at this level since one objective of participation at these levels is to prepare students for varsity play. Team membership does not guarantee more than limited game time.

Varsity team membership is based on fitness, ability, attitude, consistent effort, knowledge of fundamentals, and commitment. A student-athlete EARNs the privilege to make the team and play. The best student-athletes, at the coach's discretion, play as much as required in an attempt to achieve competitive excellence and win the contest. A valued team member in good standing may play every minute of a contest or not at all.

At the discretion of the coach, student-athletes at any level who have not attended practice consistently or whose effort in practice is detrimental to the team dynamic may not receive playing time.

At all levels, an important outcome of participation for New Trier students should be the enjoyment of team membership and a positive relationship with teammates and coaches.

Attendance at practice

1. Attendance at every practice is compulsory for team members and excused/unexcused absences will be noted. If a coach is unable to resolve the nature of an absence through discussion with a student, the athletic director will be asked to assist in determining the status of the absence.

2. Consequences for an unexcused absence may include reduced or no playing time in a subsequent contest. Recurring unexcused absences will require a conference between player and coach with the result to be an appropriate consequence for the unexcused absence and a commitment by the student for future appropriate practice attendance. Dismissal from a team may also occur under these circumstances.
3. Students who experience academic conflicts or require additional contact with academic faculty may honor those commitments or seek assistance without disciplinary penalty. The student is obligated to reach a member of his/her coaching staff (preferably the Head Coach) in advance when unable to attend practice for academic reasons. Coaches will use their prerogative to determine the impact on playing time of these absences. Recurring absences for academic reasons may result in a recommendation a student not continue with his/her sport in order to meet the demands of the school's academic program.

List of New Trier Athletic Offerings

*Indicates squad size limitations may be imposed.

Fall

BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY
 BOYS' GOLF*
 BOYS' SOCCER*
 FIELD HOCKEY*
 FOOTBALL
 GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY
 GIRLS' GOLF*
 GIRLS' SWIMMING AND DIVING*
 GIRLS' TENNIS*
 GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL*
 ROWING - COED (Club)*

Winter

BOYS' BASKETBALL*
 BOYS' BOWLING*
 BOYS' SWIMMING AND DIVING
 FENCING – COED*
 GIRLS' BASKETBALL*
 GIRLS' BOWLING*
 GIRLS' GYMNASTICS*
 WRESTLING

Spring

BADMINTON*
 BOYS' BASEBALL*
 BOYS' LACROSSE*
 BOYS' TENNIS*
 BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD
 BOYS' VOLLEYBALL*
 BOYS' WATER POLO*
 GIRLS' LACROSSE*
 GIRLS' SOCCER*
 GIRLS' TRACK AND FIELD
 GIRLS' WATER POLO*
 SOFTBALL*
 ROWING - COED (Club)*