

POLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

CODE: JJIB

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SUBJECT: Sponsorship and Evaluation of Athletic Programs

DATE OF ORIGINAL POLICY: January 2007

REVISION DATE:

JURISDICTION: Poland Regional High School

POLICY:

It is the Poland Regional High School Committee's desire to offer Poland School students athletic programming that provides diverse, developmentally appropriate opportunities and encourages student participation. At the same time, the Poland Regional High School Committee recognizes that resources may not be available to fund all of the sports in which students and the community have an interest. In order to provide students with meaningful athletic experiences while maintaining high quality, sustainable programs, the Poland Regional High School Committee adopts this policy governing sponsorship and evaluation of the Poland school's athletic programs.

Through sponsorship, the school unit assumes responsibility for, and control of, a particular athletic program. Sponsorship requires Poland Regional High School Committee approval. The Poland Regional High School assumes responsibility only for those interscholastic athletic programs the Poland Regional High School Committee has designated as school-sponsored.

The Poland Regional High School Committee will approve for sponsorship only those programs that are consistent with its philosophy and policies and with regulations established by the appropriate governing bodies, including the Maine Principals' Association (which refers to its regulations as "policies"). Sponsorship does not mean that funding will be provided in whole or in part through the Poland Regional High School's budget. Sponsorship is required even for activities that may be funded in full by booster organizations.

Sponsorship is required before any team may represent itself using the school name, to be eligible for league play and tournament participation, or to be eligible for school athletic awards.

In order to assess the sustainability of athletic activities, each ongoing activity will be evaluated on at least a five-year cycle.

The Poland Regional High School Committee establishes the following process for the approval and evaluation of athletic programs.

A. CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL AND EVALUATION OF ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

The superintendent/designee shall be responsible for developing a process for evaluating potential athletic programs and assessing the viability of existing programs. The process shall take into consideration the following factors, which shall be applied consistently to all programs:

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1. Student body interest;
2. Community interest;
3. Gender equity;
4. Impact on facilities;
5. Impact on existing programs;
6. Impact on administration and staff;
7. Expenses;
8. Availability of competition;
9. Potential to field competitive teams;
10. Alignment with Poland Regional High School Committee's philosophy and policies; and
11. Availability of funds, consideration of extraordinary costs (e.g., rental of facilities, transportation, specialized equipment), and other relevant data.

The process should include a scale for weighting and rating these criteria and for reporting a total score that may be used for comparison purposes.

B. APPROVAL OF NEW ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Sponsorship of all new interscholastic athletic programs must be approved in advance. The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for making and supporting recommendations to the Poland Regional High School Committee at least six (6) months prior to the proposed starting date. Recommendations are to be made based on data from the evaluation process.

The Poland Regional High School Committee may impose conditions that must be met for the program to be approved.

Following initial approval, new programs will be placed on a one-year probationary status.

Six (6) months prior to the end of the probationary period, the Superintendent/designee must submit a report to the Poland Regional High School Committee including recommendations and support for continued Poland Regional High School Committee approval. The Poland Regional High School Committee may provide for continuing approval, deny approval, or extend the probationary status for one additional year. Probationary status shall not exceed three (3) years.

C. EVALUATION OF EXISTING OR ONGOING SCHOOL-SANCTIONED ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Every athletic program will be reviewed on a five-year cycle. The purpose of evaluation is to ensure that all existing or previously approved programs continue to meet the standards and criteria established by the Poland Regional High School Committee.

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The Poland Regional High School Committee may authorize a program to be reviewed out of sequence based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent/designee. The evaluation of existing or ongoing approved programs will be done using the same process used to assess proposed programs. Based upon the data, the Superintendent/designee shall make a recommendation to the Poland Regional High School Committee as to whether the program should continue or be deleted. The Poland Regional High School Committee may vote to delete any program that it deems no longer sustainable or in keeping with Poland Regional High School Committee philosophy, standards or criteria.

D. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The Superintendent/designee may appoint a program evaluation or review committee to perform evaluations of proposed and existing athletic programs. Any such committee must have balanced representation including the Superintendent and/or Athletic Director, a high school administrator, a middle school administrator, teachers who are employed as coaches, and community. Any such committee will use the process for program evaluation. The committee shall be advisory to the Poland Regional High School Committee. While it may make recommendations to the Poland Regional High School Committee, the Poland Regional High School Committee retains full authority over the Poland Regional High School's athletic programs.

Cross Reference: JJI—Philosophy of Athletics
 JJIBA—Hiring and Evaluation of Coaches
 JJIBB—Sportsmanship

SIGNATURE BLOCK:

Poland Regional High School Committee

_____	_____
Kim Moody, Chair	DATE
_____	_____
Norm Davis	DATE
_____	_____
Scott Sawyer	DATE
_____	_____
Mary Ella Jones	DATE
_____	_____
Sue Callahan	DATE
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Dave Griffiths	DATE
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Steven Carr	DATE