

Administrative Procedure 318

Students

EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS AND COMPLIANCE WITH FAIRNESS AND SAFETY IN SPORT

BACKGROUND

Extracurricular competitive athletics occur outside the regular physical education curriculum and are optional. Participation in these athletics carries an increased risk of injury or medical concern. Parents and guardians must acknowledge these risks and provide consent for students to participate.

Principals are responsible for all extracurricular athletics occurring at Westmount Charter Schools or involving students enrolled at the schools. At the Mid-High, the Athletic Director coordinates interscholastic athletics and may delegate responsibilities to approved staff. The Fairness and Safety in Sport Act (Bill 29), effective September 1, 2025, applies to athletes age 12 and older and requires that eligibility policies for female-only divisions be reserved for biologically female students, while supporting co-ed and mixed-sex participation to ensure meaningful involvement of transgender athletes.

DEFINITIONS

The definitions listed in the following table apply to this administrative procedure.

Extracurricular Competitive Athletics	Athletic activities outside the regular physical education curriculum, excluding intramurals, school rentals, or non-athletics competitions
Principal	Includes the principal's designate when the principal is unavailable.
Student	Any Individual enrolled in kindergarten to grade 12 at Westmount Charter School.
Student's Parent	Legal guardian or the student if independent under the Education Act.
Biologically Female	A student whose sex was assigned at birth as female.
Female-Only Division	Competitions restricted to biologically female students.
Co-Ed/ Mixed-Sex Division	Competitions open to all students regardless of sex or gender identity.

PROCEDURES

1. Responsibility for Extracurricular Athletics
 - 1.1 The principal is responsible for all extracurricular athletics at Westmount Charter School, including activities organized by external associations.
 - 1.2 The principal is responsible for all students enrolled at Westmount Charter School participating in extracurricular athletics, regardless of location.
2. Delegation of Responsibilities
 - 2.1 Principals may delegate responsibilities to certificated employees.
 - 2.2 Delegation requires a reporting procedure to ensure the principal remains informed.
 - 2.3 A head coach must be appointed for each athletic team, ensuring that at least one certificated employee supervises all tryouts, practices, and competitions.

- 2.4 Head coaches may delegate responsibilities but must maintain supervision requirements at all times.
- 3. Parent Consent and Medical Information
 - 3.1 Form WCS- AP 318 (Annual Extracurricular Athletics Consent Form) must be completed by the parent/guardian each school year for each activity.
 - 3.2 Consent must be obtained before tryouts, practices, or competitions.
 - 3.3 Consent for a tryout or practice covers competitions unless risks differ.
 - 3.4 Medical information affecting participation must be submitted and recorded in the school's student information system.
- 4. Eligibility and Fairness in Sport
 - 4.1 Female-only divisions are limited to biologically female students. Verification must be documented confidentially.
 - 4.2 Co-ed and mixed-sex opportunities must be created where feasible to allow meaningful participation of transgender and non-binary students.
 - 4.3 Coaches and staff are responsible for enforcing these eligibility policies.
- 5. Coordination of Interscholastic Athletics
 - 5.1 The athletic director coordinates interscholastic athletics.
 - 5.2 The athletic director decides which activities qualify as interscholastic extracurricular athletics.
 - 5.3 Participation with other schools required athletic director approval.
 - 5.4 Where applicable, associations such as the CISAA apply in addition to this procedure.
 - 5.5 Committees may be formed to assist coordination, with all final authority resting with the athletic director.
- 6. Enforcement
 - 6.1 The principal or athletic director reviews eligibility challenges.
 - 6.2 Bad-faith complaints may result in disciplinary action.
 - 6.3 Decisions must align with the Education Act, Fairness and Safety in Sport Act (Bill 29), and Westmount policies.
- 7. Communication
 - 7.1 Students, parents, and coaches will be informed of eligibility policies and consent requirements before each athletic season.
 - 7.2 Updates to this procedure will be communicated via email, school website, and athletic registration forms.
- 8. Review
 - 8.1 This procedure will be reviewed annually by the principal and athletic director to ensure compliance with legislation and best practices in athletics.

Legal Reference: Education Act, Education Amendment Act, 2024; Fairness and Safety in Sport Act; Fairness and Safety in Sport Regulation;
Cross Reference:
Date of Adoption: September 1, 2025
Date of Revision:
Due for Review: September 1, 2026

APPENDIX

WCS AP 318 – WESTMOUNT CHARTER SCHOOL ANNUAL EXTRACURRICULAR ATHLETICS CONSENT FORM

School Year: _____

Student Information

- Name: _____
- Grade: _____
- Date of Birth: _____
- Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____
- Contact Phone: _____
- Email: _____

1. Consent for Participation

I, the parent/guardian of the student mentioned earlier (or the student if independent under the Education Act), acknowledge that extracurricular competitive athletics occur outside the regular physical education curriculum and carry increased risk of injury. I give consent for my child to participate in the following extracurricular athletic activities during the current school year (check all that apply):

- ☐ Badminton
- ☐ Basketball
- ☐ Cross Country
- ☐ Curling
- ☐ Golf
- ☐ Rugby
- ☐ Track and Field
- ☐ Volleyball
- ☐ Wrestling

I understand that participation includes tryouts, practices, and competitions, and that consent for tryouts/practices covers competitions unless otherwise noted.

2. Medical Information

Please provide relevant medical information that may affect your child's participation (allergies, injuries, medical conditions, medications, etc.):

Emergency Contact (if different from parent/guardian):

- Name: _____
- Phone: _____

3. Eligibility for Female-Only Divisions

In accordance with Alberta's Fairness and Safety in Sport Act (Bill 29):

- Participation in female-only divisions is limited to students who are biologically female.
- Verification of biological sex may be required for female-only divisions.

I understand that this information will be kept confidential and used solely for the purpose of eligibility verification.

4. Co-Ed / Mixed-Sex Divisions

Students not eligible for female-only divisions, including transgender and non-binary students, may participate in co-ed or mixed-sex divisions where offered.

5. Acknowledgement and Signature

By signing below, I acknowledge that:

1. I have read and understand the risks associated with extracurricular athletics.
2. I consent to my child's participation in the activities listed above.
3. I have provided accurate medical information and understand that it will be treated confidentially.
4. I understand and will adhere to the eligibility requirements for female-only divisions and co-ed/mixed-sex opportunities.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Signature (if independent): _____ **Date:** _____