

Middle School Interscholastic Athletics 2016-17

Students attending middle schools in Bellingham Public Schools will have the opportunity to participate in a quality athletic program. Turn-in deadlines are set to ensure viability of the program. Please see the list below for all our middle school offerings.

**Important –Registration must be turned in by each deadline to ensure appropriate coaching ratios.*

2016-17 Athletic Fees

Athletic Fee	\$0
ASB Fee	\$10

6th Grade Sports Offerings

Fall **August 26 Deadline**
 Begins Aug. 31

Track
Boys and Girls Soccer

Pre-Winter **Oct. 31 Deadline**
 Begins Nov. 7

Floor Exercise & Dance

Winter **Jan. 23 Deadline**
 Begins Jan. 30

Wrestling

Spring **March 27 Deadline**
 Begins April 10

Cross Country

7th and 8th Grade Sports Offerings

Fall **August 26 Deadline**
 Begins Aug. 31

Track
Boys and Girls Soccer

Pre-Winter **Oct. 31 Deadline**
 Begins Nov. 7

Boys Basketball
Floor Exercise & Dance

Winter **Jan. 23 Deadline**
 Begins Jan. 30

Wrestling
Girls Volleyball

Spring **March 27 Deadline**
 Begins April 10

Girls Basketball
Football
Cross Country

Middle School Practices and Game Schedules

Practices for each middle school sport will be held on a Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Fri. schedule and will run from 4-5:30 p.m. Practices will not be held on early release days and non-student days. Coaches will hand out game schedules for each sport the first week of practice. You may also check school web pages for game schedules after the individual sport season begins.

Q. What fees and paperwork must I complete and turn in by each season's deadline in order to be eligible to play?

A. In order to participate in middle school athletics, the following items must be on file by the turn in deadline for each sports season:

1. Physical: Each student must have a current physical on file before participating in practice. Have your doctor complete the required form in the sports packet available at your middle school. A physical is good for 24 months.
2. Activities & Athletics Registration has been completed by parent or guardian.
3. Activities & Athletics Signature Page: Print, read and completed with student and parent or guardian signatures. This only needs to be done once per school year.
4. ASB Fee of \$10: This once a year fee makes students eligible to participate in school clubs and sports.

Q. What else is required for participation?

A. In addition to the above requirements, students participating in middle school athletics are expected to be in good academic and behavioral standing and attend all practices, games, and meets. Your coach will review these expectations with you.

Q. Why all the emphasis on deadlines?

A. Our goal is to offer a quality, safe program for students. Participation numbers determine how many coaches can be hired and impacts transportation arrangements, so adequate lead time is necessary to ensure we can process the registration and fees. Also, you are required to participate in a specific number of practices in order to safely play in games or meets. Having all your paperwork and fees turned in on time allows you to participate.

Q. What if I change my mind?

A. If you try a sport and decide it is not for you, have your parent contact your school's office as soon as possible.

Q. When will practices be held?

A. The four middle schools have different court and field configurations. For that reason, each middle school will plan their practice times. Information about practice, game schedules, season end and start dates, and intramural offerings for coed volleyball and basketball for grade 6, will be communicated and updated on your middle school's website. Please contact your school office and coach for details.

Q. How long are practices?

A. Practices are currently 1.5 hours (90 minutes) a day for 5 days a week.

Q. If practice is before school, will showers and towels be available?

A. All middle schools have showers available. Students will need to provide their own towels.

Q. If practice is before school, will there be transportation?

A. Transportation for practices will not be provided. Transportation to games will be provided.