



WATERLOO COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WCSSAA)

Responsibility: *Superintendent of Student Achievement and Well-Being (Co-Instructional – WCSSAA and WRDSPHEA)*

Legal References:

Related References: [*Board Policy 1008 - Equity and Inclusion*](#)
[*Board Policy 6012 - Prevention and Response to Student Concussion*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 1580 – Off Campus – Categories I & II*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 1581 - Category III - Out of Province or Out of Country Trips*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 4130 – Severe Weather Conditions*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 1250 - Concussion Management*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 1700 – Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association \(WCSSAA\)*](#)
[*Administrative Procedure 3850 - Staff Use of Head Protection in Sports*](#)
[*WRDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan*](#)

Effective Date: June 15, 2015

Revisions: December 11, 2017, February 12, 2024

Reviewed: June 17, 2019,

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) is committed to providing WRDSB students with an inclusive and equitable opportunity to participate in a safe and enjoyable, competitive, co-instructional, inter-scholastic athletic program among its secondary schools. The WRDSB recognizes that co-instructional athletic experiences create opportunities for students to build leadership, teamwork, collaboration and communication skills, which contribute to the overall well-being and development of students.

2.0 Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association Purpose

- 2.1 To ensure an inclusive, equitable and sustainable inter-scholastic, co-instructional athletic program for secondary school students, an athletic committee under the authority of the WRDSB shall provide the ongoing management and administration of the athletic program in accordance with WRDSB Policies and Procedures. This co-instructional athletic committee shall be known as the Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association, herein referred to as WCSSAA.
- 2.2 WCSSAA, as a co-instructional athletic committee of WRDSB, will:
- 2.2.1 Support interest in sport among secondary students in the WRDSB;
 - 2.2.2 Establish, support and administer all sanctioned, inter-school athletic activities;

- 2.2.3 Provide equitable and inclusive opportunities for maximal participation in inter-school sports;
- 2.2.4 Explore opportunities through community engagement and/or partnerships to understand and remove barriers to student participation;
- 2.2.5 Encourage the development of values that are reflected in WRDSB Multi-year Strategic Plan (MYSP), such as fair play and inclusive and positive sporting behaviour;
- 2.2.6 Reinforce the benefits derived from participation in competitive sport in an educational setting;
- 2.2.7 Promote a balance in the athletic, academic and social-emotional development of the student;
- 2.2.8 Support the strategic directions embedded in the WRDSB MYSP for student engagement and for fostering wellness and well-being;
- 2.2.9 Maintain membership in good standing with the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) through affiliation with the Central Western Ontario Secondary School Association (CWOSSA) and ensure WCSSAA's procedures and rules are in agreement with and complement, where applicable, the respective rules of OFSAA and CWOSSA, specifically in the areas of inclusive participation and eligibility.

3.0 Participation

- 3.1 The WRDSB is responsible for ensuring that the WCSSAA committee volunteers, who are staff members and approved volunteers of the WRDSB, are not subjected to risk of personal liability when appropriately providing services as a committee member, supervisor and/or volunteer coach.
- 3.2 To protect the interests of the WRDSB , staff and volunteers who volunteer their time to provide athletic opportunities through WCSSAA, WCSSAA shall institute a mechanism for non-WRDSB secondary schools to join WCSSAA. Participation shall be governed by a letter of agreement signed by both parties.
- 3.3 All schools, including schools that are not secondary schools under the jurisdiction of the WRDSB, shall be required to comply with all WRDSB policies and procedures.
- 3.4 If approved, the participation of the secondary schools not under the jurisdiction of the WRDSB shall be on a cost recovery basis.

4. Oversight

- 4.1. WCSSAA, as a committee of the WRDSB, has established procedures (AP1700) consistent with the purpose as outlined in this policy.
- 4.2. The WCSSAA committee will report to the Director or designate, who has responsibility for oversight of the committee, on behalf of the WRDSB.