1.0 Preamble

1.1 The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) is committed to providing WRDSB students with the 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 a 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. Under the direction of the Director or designate, 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 the secondary students in the WRDSB;
2.2.2 Establish, support and administer all sanctioned, inter-school athletic activities;
2.2.3 Provide opportunities for a high degree of participation in inter-school sports;
2.2.4 Encourage the development of appropriate values, such as fair play and appropriate sporting behaviour;
2.2.5 Reinforce the benefits derived from participation in competitive sport in an educational setting;
2.2.6 Promote a balance in the athletic, academic and social-emotional development of the student;
2.2.7 Support the strategic directions of the WRDSB in engaging students and in fostering wellness and well-being;
2.2.8 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 its procedures and rules are in agreement with and complement, where appropriate, the respective rules of OFSSAA and CWOSSA.

3.0 Participation

3.1 The WRDSB is responsible for ensuring that the WCSSAA committee volunteers, who are staff members of the WRDSB, are not subjected to risk of personal liability when appropriately providing services as a committee member, supervisor and/or volunteer coach. To protect the interests of the WRDSB and employees who volunteer their time to provide athletic opportunities through WCSSAA, WCSSAA shall institute, through the development of appropriate procedures, a mechanism for other secondary schools, such as members of District 8, to join WCSSAA, under the authority of WRDSB. The procedure will include details as to the process by which a secondary school/group of secondary schools, not specifically under the jurisdiction of the WRDSB, can participate as part of WCSSAA.

3.2 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. The participation of the secondary schools not under the jurisdiction of the WRDSB shall be on a cost recovery basis.

4.0 Oversight

3.1 WCSSAA, as a committee of the WRDSB, will establish procedures consistent with the purpose as outlined in this policy. The WCSSAA committee will report to the Director or designate, who has responsibility for oversight of the committee, on behalf of the WRDSB.