

2025-2026 Brown City ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

For Student Athletes, Parents, and
Coaches



Brown City Jr/Sr High School

Brown City Athletic Department 4400 Second St. Brown City, MI 48416 810-346-4700

Brown City Community Schools

Athletics

Student & Parent

Contents

- Athletic Program Philosophy Message to Students (pg. 3)
- Sports Offered Team Tryouts (pg. 4)
- 6th Grade/Junior High Sports (pg. 5)
- Responsibilities and Obligations - Students and Parents/ MHSAA Code for Athletes (pg. 6)
- Athletes joining teams after the first official practice (pg. 6)
- Multi-Sport Athletes Contract (pg. 7)
- State Eligibility Requirements (pg. 7)
- Brown City Athletic Eligibility (pg. 7-8)
- Athletic Department Policies (pg. 8)
- Training Rules (pg. 9-10)
- Understanding A Concussion (pg. 10-11)
- Awards (pg. 11)
- Good Sports Are Winners (pg. 11-12)
- Issues in Athletics Appeals (pg. 12-13)
- Statement of Warning/Insurance (pg. 13)

BROWN CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Nickname:	Green Devils	BOARD OF EDUCATION
Colors:	Kelly Green & White	
Class:	C	President: Mark Shadley
League:	Big Thumb Conference (BTC)	Vice-President: Mary Lou Jacobs
Phone Number:	(810) 346-4700	Treasurer: Robb Gingell
Fax Number:	(810) 346-3762	Treasurer Pro-Tem: Bob Alexander
Superintendent:	Neil Kohler	Secretary: Theresa Kohler
Principal:	Brad Hale	Secretary Pre-Tem: Ryan Banks
Athletic Director	Tony Burton/Cindy Burton	Trustee: Brooke Harnden

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The goal of education is to help young people to develop physically, emotionally, intellectually, and socially. The athletic program at Brown City High School is meant to contribute to this goal by providing our student athletes with opportunities to participate as team members in athletic competition with other schools. Desirable individual outcomes include the development not only of physical skills but of sportsmanship, teamwork, self-discipline, loyalty, tolerance and perseverance.

MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

These policies have been developed in the interest of administering and operation an effective athletic program. It is our intent to provide fairness and consistency throughout all facets of the athletic program. Therefore, it is your responsibility to be aware of the primary policies which will govern the athletic program. We would like to suggest that you study the contents carefully. You should be aware that these rules are considered in effect for all athletes, regardless of age, and always whether in season or out of season, twelve months each year, during your entire athletic career.

Athletes are held in high esteem by their peers and community. Because of community commitment to our schools and its athletic program, it is expected that a Student-Athlete will conduct himself/herself in a manner acceptable to the supporters of the program. Brown City High School has established an ATHLETIC CODE that clearly defines certain behaviors as inappropriate and harmful to the young adult and his/her athletic endeavors. Using illegal or harmful substances, exhibiting improper conduct, or engaging in activities considered to be unbecoming an athlete are areas where violations of the code would be dealt with by suspension from athletic contests or from the athletic program.

It is our belief that citizenship and sportsmanship are important life qualities held precious by our community and schools. We expect the athletes of Brown City High School to accept the responsibilities of good behavior along with the privileges and benefits athletics will afford them.

Athletes will be expected to comply with the STUDENT HANDBOOK as outlined for the daily functioning of the normal school program. The rules of the STUDENT HANDBOOK shall be applied to each athlete. This ATHLETIC CODE shall reinforce the STUDENT HANDBOOK and provide for those situations not included in the STUDENT HANDBOOK. An athlete is a student first and an athlete second. A student participating in athletics shall accept the responsibility for following all rules of the STUDENT HANDBOOK and the ATHLETIC CODE. In situations where a student is suspended from school, and is involved in athletics, he or she will not participate in ANY athletic activity during the period of suspension.

SPORTS OFFERED

Boys

FALL SPORTS

Var Football

JV Football

Cross Country

JH Football

JH Cross Country

WINTER SPORTS

Var Basketball

JV Basketball

Wrestling

Hockey Co-op

JH Wrestling

8th Grade Basketball

7th Grade Basketball

SPRING SPORTS

Golf

Track

Var Baseball

JV Baseball

JH Track

Girls

Var Volleyball

JV Volleyball

Freshman Volleyball

Cross Country

Var Cheerleading

JH Cross Country

8th Grade Volleyball

7th Grade Volleyball

Var Basketball

JV Basketball

JH Cheerleading

8th Grade Basketball

7th Grade Basketball

Track

Var Softball

JV Softball

JH Track

TEAM TRYOUTS AND CUTTING

All eligible students will be offered the opportunity to try out for an Athletic team. Each sport has a starting date and there will normally be a minimum of three days of tryouts/practice before cuts are made. Each team and coach may have additional rules and guidelines that are relative to the particular sport.

6th GRADE/JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS

At the Junior High level it is the goal of the Brown City Athletic Program to focus mostly on participation and less on competition. There are no cuts in Junior High Sports. We want all junior high athletes to have an opportunity to be a part of the team and to participate in as many events as possible. Our coaches make every attempt to allow each athlete of the team to be a contributing member.

The MHSAA is allowing 6th grade participation in JH athletics with league discretion. The (GTC) Greater Thumb Conference will not sponsor league team sports, all other athletics will be at the discretion of each local school district.

Cross-Country / Wrestling / Track

6th – 8th Grade with no restrictions

Football

No 6th Grade participation

If numbers fall below 15 athletes a committee of Athletic Director, Head Varsity Football Coach, Principal, and the athletic committee will meet to discuss direction of the junior high football program and bring a recommendation to the Board of Education.

Volleyball / Basketball

No 6th Grade participation unless there are less than 10 athletes on either the 7th or 8th grade teams.

PROCEDURE

Any time an athlete is moved up from the 6th grade to help fill numbers at the junior high level, the following steps must be followed:

1. A meeting between Parent/Athlete/Varsity Coach/Athletic Director to go over contract/agreement of moving player up. Parent/Athlete has the right to decline.
2. Any movement up or down can only be a one grade movement.
3. Players moved up from the 6th Grade are chosen by the Varsity Coach based on the team need. This may not necessarily be the best/most skilled player.
4. Once a player is up, they must stay up for the remainder of the season unless the committee meets to void the agreement.
5. 6th Grade Academic Eligibility will be the same 2-week span as the High School. Students must be passing 5 of the following classes:

Math ELA Reading English Soc Studies Science Spelling
Cannot be failing Physical Education and/or Band

In sports with participation minimums athletes may be moved from 8th to 7th or 7th to 8th to meet minimum number requirements. This is done with approval of Athlete/Parent/Varsity Coach/ Athletic Director.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

THE BROWN CITY STUDENT ATHLETE

The Brown City Student Athlete is a school leader and representative at all times. This means both on and off the field or floor of competition. With these responsibilities come certain privileges and certain obligations. The Brown City Student Athlete:

1. Must maintain conduct of the highest standard at all times.
2. Must comply with all training rules and guidelines as set down by individual coaches or their respective teams.
3. Must comply with all rules and guidelines contained in the ATHLETIC CODE.
4. Must maintain academic standards and adhere to the eligibility requirements as prescribed by the Michigan High School Athletic Association and the Brown City ATHLETIC CODE.
5. Will be held financially responsible for the use and care of the assigned equipment and must be cleared by the previous coach within the week following the conclusion of the previous season.
6. Is encouraged to support other Brown City athletic teams and members and to attend all Brown City School activities whenever possible.
7. Understands that the uniform always represents the athlete during competition and the school, therefore it is to be worn with pride and ONLY DURING THE APPROPRIATE TIMES.

THE BROWN CITY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

The Brown City Parent or Legal Guardian plays a highly important role in the career of the Student Athlete. It is often not realized how his or her support and involvement in the Brown City Athletic Program can affect the thinking and actions of the Student Athlete. Therefore, the Brown City Parent or Legal Guardian is urged to:

1. Encourage the Student Athlete to attend practices regularly and to adhere to the rules and guidelines of this the ATHLETIC CODE.
2. As a Brown City Parent/Guardian and/or Grandparent you are a member of the Athletic Boosters Club! You are encouraged to become an active member by attending meetings and voluntarily working at home contests.
3. Sign the Brown City ATHLETIC CODE acknowledgment agreement.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CODE FOR ATHLETES

1. Know and adhere to the athletic code of the school.
2. Exceed all attendance academic requirements as practical evidence of loyalty to school and team and a proper philosophy of school sponsored athletics.
3. Observe completely all policies regarding conduct, doing so as a duty to school, team and self.
4. Counsel with the athletic director over questions of eligibility.
5. Practice and play fairly, giving complete effort in all circumstances and credit in victory to teammates and to opponents in defeat.
6. Accept favorable and unfavorable decisions, as well as victory and defeat, with equal grace.
7. Demonstrate respect for opponents and officials before, during and after contests.

ATHLETES JOINING TEAMS AFTER THE FIRST OFFICIAL PRACTICE

If a sport requires try-outs an athlete is expected to be there for all days of try-outs unless they have an excused absence that is pre-approved by the head coach and athletic director.

If an athlete chooses to join a try-out sport after the first practice and does not have prior approval for an excused absence, they will not be allowed to join.

If an athlete moves into the district after the first practice, they will be given an opportunity to make the team.

If it is a non-tryout sport – an athlete may join late with the approval of the head coach, varsity coach, and athletic

director. These athletes will be required to complete all requirements (mandatory practice requirements prior to the first competition) as spelled out by the varsity coach and athletic director prior to competing in a game/competition

MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES CONTRACT

If athletes are planning to multi-sport, in any season, they must follow the guidelines listed below:

Declare their intent to dual sport no later than 5 days prior to the 1st practice, of the earliest start date for that season.

If a sport has cuts that must be the athletes primary sport

Coaches cannot tell an athlete they may not multi-sport, if needed that will be a decision made by Administration.

Athlete/Parent/Athletic Director/Primary Coach/Secondary Coach must meet prior to the first practice to go over the multi-sport contract. This must be signed by all parties (see contract).

Playing on a team is not guaranteed if athletes miss practices due to multi-sporting.

Players are expected to communicate with both coaches about expectations for practices/games and their required attendance.

Coaches will work together to structure practice times around each other if possible.

STATE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

<https://my.mhsaa.com/Portals/0/Documents/AD%20Forms/2023handbook.pdf>

pgs. 27-29, 33, 43

BROWN CITY ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

1. **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY** - To lend substance to the philosophy of being a student first and foremost and an athlete second, there has been incorporated an academic eligibility program that monitors the grades and citizenship of the Student Athlete on a bi-weekly basis. A Student Athlete failing in more than one class or displaying inappropriate behavior in more than one class is denied the opportunity to compete in the athletic events of the following two weeks. After the two-week period, if grades or citizenship improve to an acceptable level that meets the eligibility criteria, the Student Athlete may return to compete in the interscholastic competition. During academic ineligibility the Student Athlete is still expected to be a full member of the team, participating in practice and other team functions, unless time away from the team has been granted by the coach to be spent improving schoolwork and grades.
 - A. Using the master Student Athletic list, eligibility will be complied, and the athletic department will receive a list of academic failures and unacceptable citizenship. Eligibility will be communicated to the coach of the athlete that will be ineligible for two weeks.
 - B. Categories for considering eligibility are:
 1. Academic - Failing - E
 2. Citizenship - Unsatisfactory - U
2. **PREVIOUS SEMESTER CREDITS** - In addition to Current Eligibility, a student may not have lost credit in more than one class from the previous semester. The Student Athlete that has lost credit in more than one class from the previous semester is ineligible for interscholastic competition for the current semester. This student would not be allowed to participate in practices or other team functions.

3. **SUSPENSIONS/EXPULSIONS** - Any student Athlete who is suspended or expelled from school because of a non-athletic violation of student conduct will also be suspended or expelled from the Brown City Athletic Program (including practices) for the same period of time.
4. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION** - Each year the Student Athlete must have on file a physical examination form signed by a licensed physician stating he or she is physically acceptable for athletic participation in the Brown City Athletic Program before he or she may take part in any practices or contests. Any specific physical restriction must be noted.
5. **PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE** - The Student Athlete must have on file a form signed by the parent or legal guardian of the Student Athlete granting permission to participate in sports for the calendar school year. This form must be on file prior to the first contest of the season or participation will be denied.

BROWN CITY ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES

1. GENERAL TEAM GUIDELINES

Each athlete that is on a team must have a strong commitment to the team and the athletic department in general. Being on a team will require teamwork, self-discipline, loyalty, tolerance, sportsmanship and perseverance. If an athlete has a concern or conflict, first, begin with the Head Coach of the team. See Issues in Athletics.

2. ATTENDANCE

Extra-curricular attendance - A student must be in attendance for at least 4 class hours to participate in an extra-curricular activity on any given day. This rule may be waived if the student has a pre-arranged absence with the Principal/A.D. or was absent due to an emergency in the family.

Absence from a contest and/or practice sessions are excused for illness, death in the family and other circumstances at the discretion of the coach and/or Athletic Director.

Absenteeism from any part of school the day following a contest is to be discouraged. Coaches are to counsel their athletes to avoid this. A record of repeated violations shall require a conference with the coach and Athletic Director to determine disciplinary action.

3. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT/PROFANITY

Activities at all athletic practice and competition sessions are under the direction of the coach in charge and will be handled by the coach. Flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, including profanity, by a student athlete occurring prior to, during, or immediately following an athletic event may require the student athlete to appear before the coach, athletic director and building principal for consideration of disciplinary action.

4. TRANSPORTATION

Athletes are to travel to and from away contests with their team in school authorized transportation. Parental requests to deviate from this rule must sign a Permission To Ride form with the coach at the sporting event. A note from a parent/guardian must be approved by the Athletic Director, High School Principal or Superintendent in advance to ride home with another adult other than the parent/guardian. Emergencies shall be handled at the discretion of the Coach of that sport.

5. SCHOOL EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

School equipment and uniforms checked out by the Student Athlete are his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep them clean and in good condition. Loss of any equipment or uniform is the athlete's obligation.

6. QUITTING A SPORT

An athlete that quits a sport **after** the 10th day of practice must sit out the first 25% of games/meets of the next sport they participate in, unless waived by the Athletic Director or Principal due to certain circumstances.

This does not affect Jr. High Athletes.

7. **TRAINING RULES**

All athletes in the Brown City Community Schools fall under the Board of Education policy on athletic training rules. These training rules are to be observed the entire calendar year.

ATHLETICS DEFINED

1. Member of any athletic team.
2. Team Managers
3. Cheerleaders

TRAINING RULES

Brown City JH/HS athletes will follow the following guidelines and expectations if they receive a first offense and/or subsequent offenses for the use of (but not limited to) drugs, medications without prescriptions, alcohol, fake drugs, vapes, inhalants, look-alike drugs, tobacco-free snuff/cigarettes, or any other nicotine-free or smokeless tobacco products, and all other similar products as deemed by the Board of Education and school administration.

A Brown City student is considered a student-athlete at the time of the first scheduled practice of their 6th-grade year and/or the first day of their 6th-grade year.

Any student-athlete proven possession/use of items (not inclusive) listed above shall result in the following consequences:

1. First Violation:

1. $\frac{1}{4}$ of seasons (total) contests forfeited – This shall include the current season of participation, next season student-athlete participates in, and it could be enforced over multiple sports and/or seasons. Example: Student-athlete is in possession of alcohol in December and playing basketball. A basketball season is 20 games total, student-athlete will forfeit and is suspended for the next 5 games after the offense. Student-athlete is still able to practice with the team, is expected to attend games (not in uniform), and may be recommended to attend substance abuse courses.
2. Student is placed on two-year probation. If no other offenses (in this section of handbook) within two years (from date of written consequence) the student-athlete's subsequent consequences will reset back to first offense consequences.

2. Second Violation/Violation During 2-year Probation:

- a. Violation must fall within a two-year probation timeframe, which is initiated with a first offense.
- b. Student-athlete is removed from team and loss of awards
- c. Student-athlete is ineligible to participate in school athletics for 1 calendar year (from date of written consequence)
- d. Student-athlete may participate in practices during this time with administrative and coach's approval, but cannot participate in any games/scrimmages
- e. It will be recommended that student-athlete attend substance abuse courses
- f. Student-athletes two-year probation resets with a new probation start date from the date of written offense

****Probation periods between 6-12 grade can only reset if the student-athlete has two years of no offenses in this category****

PERFORMANCE – ENHANCING SUBSTANCES

Any athlete using performance-enhancing substances will jeopardize their athletic eligibility as determined by the Principal, Athletic Director and Head Coach.

CONVICTION OF ANY FELONY

First Offense

Will result in an immediate and permanent suspension from athletics.

Any violations accrued during 7th & 8th Grades will not be considered a part of the accumulation for the suspension in grades 9 - 12.

UNBECOMING OR IMMORAL CONDUCT

Any athlete whose actions are deemed detrimental to the team, school or community may be permanently suspended from the team at the discretion of the Head Coach and Athletic Director.

REINSTATEMENT

One week prior to the completion of the suspension the student must in writing apply to the Athletic Director for reinstatement. To determine whether the student athlete should be reinstated, a conference with the student athlete, parent, Athletic Director, and Principal will be scheduled.

SELF-REFERRAL BY STUDENT ATHLETE

Student athletes may take advantage of a self-referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling and assessment in regard to student use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Voluntary referrals do not carry punitive consequences.

- A. Referral is allowed one (1) time in a student's four-year high school career.
- B. Referral must be made by the athlete or immediate member of the family.
- C. Referral must be previous to the first offense.
- D. Referral cannot be used by athletes as a method to avoid consequences once a training rule is violated and a student has been identified as having violated the training rules.
- E. Referral must be made to a coach, athletic director, teacher, administrator, or guidance counselor.

UNDERSTANDING A CONCUSSION

Some Common Symptoms				
Headache	Balance Problems	Sensitive to Noise	Poor Concentration	Not "Feeling Right"
Pressure in the Head	Double Vision	Sluggishness	Memory Problems	Feeling Irritable
Nausea/Vomiting	Blurry Vision	Haziness	Confusion	Slow Reaction Time
Dizziness	Sensitive to Light	Fogginess	"Feeling Down"	Sleep Problems
		Grogginess		

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a fall, bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. A concussion can be caused by a shaking, spinning or a sudden stopping and starting of the head. Even a "ding," "getting your bell rung," or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. A concussion can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussions can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If the student reports any symptoms of a concussion, or if you notice symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away. A student who may have had a concussion should not return to play on the day of the injury and until a health care professional says they are okay to play.

IF YOU SUSPECT A CONCUSSION:

1. **SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION RIGHT AWAY** – A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for the student to return to regular activities, including sports. Don't hide it, report it. Ignoring symptoms and trying to "tough it out" often makes it worse.

2. **KEEP YOUR STUDENT OUT OF PLAY** – Concussions take time to heal. Don't let the student return to play the day of injury and until a health care professional says it's okay. A student who returns to play too soon, while the brain is still healing, risks a greater chance of having a second concussion. Young children and teens are more likely to get a concussion and take longer to recover than adults. Repeat or second concussions increase the time it takes to recover and can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage, affecting the student for a lifetime. They can be fatal. It is better to miss one game than the whole season.

3. **TELL THE SCHOOL ABOUT ANY PREVIOUS CONCUSSION** – Schools should know if a student had a previous concussion. A student's school may not know about a concussion received in another sport or activity unless you notify them.

SIGNS OBSERVED BY PARENTS:

Appears dazed or stunned

Can't recall events prior to or after a hit or fall

Answers questions slowly

Is confused about assignment or position
Forgets an instruction

Is unaware of game, score, or opponent
Moves clumsily

Loses consciousness
(even briefly)
Shows mood, behavior, or
Personality changes

CONCUSSION DANGER SIGNS:

In rare cases, a dangerous blood clot may form on the brain in a person with a concussion and crowd the brain against the skull. A student should receive immediate medical attention if after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body s/he exhibits any of the following danger signs:

One pupil larger than the other
Is drowsy or cannot be awakened
A headache that gets worse
Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination

Repeated vomiting or nausea
Slurred speech
Convulsions or seizures
Cannot recognize people/places

Becomes increasingly confused, restless or agitated
Has unusual behavior
Loses consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously.)

HOW TO RESPOND TO A REPORT OF A CONCUSSION:

If a student reports one or more symptoms of a concussion after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of athletic play the day of the injury. The student should only return to play with permission from a health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion. During recovery, rest is key. Exercising or activities that involve a lot of concentration (such as studying, working on the computer, or playing video games) may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Students who return to school after a concussion may need to spend fewer hours at school, take rest breaks, be given extra help and time, spend less time reading, writing or on a computer. After a concussion, returning to sports and school is a gradual process that should be monitored by a health care professional.

Remember: Concussion affects people differently. While most students with a concussion recover quickly and fully, some will have symptoms that last for days, or even weeks. A more serious concussion can last for month or longer.

To learn more, go to www.cdc.gov/concussion

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS

Numerals - Given for first freshmen or junior varsity award, one set only

Varsity Letter - Given as first varsity award - each student will receive only one letter during their high school career. Upon receipt of each JV or Varsity award, an athlete will always receive a designated participation certificate. Upon the receipt of EACH varsity award an athlete will also receive a gold pin representing that sport.

Three Year (Plaque) - Varsity award in each sport where (3) three varsity awards were earned.

Four Year (Plaque) - Varsity award in each sport where (4) four varsity awards were earned.

Greater Thumb Conference Award - this award is selected by the head coaches of the various sports. These awards are 1st Team, 2nd Team and Honorable Mention.

Greater Thumb Conference Scholar Athlete award - This award is issued to a Brown City Athlete who has met the following requirements:

1. Is a member of a varsity team at BC for a full Season.
2. Has maintained a 3.0 GPA or higher while in a sport.

A player who has been injured during the season and not allowed to participate further on doctor's orders, may be eligible for an award upon the recommendation of his or her coach.

Replacement or duplication of any award if possible, at cost, from the Athletic Director.

GOOD SPORTS ARE WINNERS: FUNDAMENTALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP

The following six steps will help people understand their responsibilities at an athletic event.

1. Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest.
2. Exercise representative behavior at all times.
3. Recognize and appreciate skilled performance regardless of affiliation.
4. Exhibit respect for the officials.
5. Display openly a respect for opponents.
6. Display pride in your actions at every opportunity.

Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgment. Regardless of whether you are a student, player, coach,

or official. This valve is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

ISSUES IN ATHLETICS

The Brown City Community Schools is very proud of our sound educational and athletic programs. We have committed ourselves to continue to have a program that all student athletes can be proud to be part of while they are in school. As a result of our commitment, we will also invite comments and criticism from our public. We enthusiastically participate in discussion of ways to address and resolve the issue and challenges that lie ahead. When a person, such as a student, parent, coach, teacher, or Administrator has a question, concern, or complaint regarding an athletic situation we have found the following line of communication very effective in resolving issues. Wait until the next day to talk to the Coach.

1. Start with the source. Talk directly with the coach, in private, face to face, away from the practice site or game arena. A telephone call may be necessary to arrange an appointment. Appointments can be arranged through the Athletic Director by calling 810-346-2781.
2. If necessary, talk next with the head coach of the sport.
3. If necessary, talk next with the Athletic Director.
4. If necessary, talk next with the Principal.
5. If necessary, talk next with Superintendent.

All complaints MUST be heard at the lowest possible level BEFORE intervention by the higher authority can occur. This system has worked very well in the past. However, the ext arbitrator will always be willing to meet with a complainant if sub-level discussions do not accomplish their intended purpose. Help the child learn to resolve his or her own differences. When a student successfully deals with difficult situations, he or she learns and grows. Of course, a parent always has the right to intervene on behalf of a child. When stating your concern be prepared with the facts in so far as you understand, or can ascertain, them. Think through your expectations for the outcome resulting from voicing your concern. That is, be clear about what you hope will happen as result of your meeting. As you converse with the coach, or other authority, repeat back what you hear him or her say to be sure that you understand the important points. Stay calm and friendly as you talk and listen.

We always assume that all parties have the best interest of the students in mind when concerns are discussed. We will make every effort to assure that the student is not penalized or placed in an awkward position as a result of voicing a concern.

APPEALS

It is understood and agreed when the Student Athlete and his or her parent or legal guardian sign the acknowledgment of the BROWN CITY ATHLETIC CODE that they agree to abide by all rules and guidelines contained, including punishments for violations.

There may be an occasion, however, when the Student Athlete and/or his or her parent or legal guardian either do not feel the violation took place or the punishment is not in accordance with this Athletic Code. The Athletic Appeal Council is established to hear such cases.

If an athlete and/or his or her parent or legal guardian feels it is necessary to appeal a decision, a WRITTEN request must be submitted to the Brown City Athletic Director within 2 calendar days after the notification of punishment for a violation takes place. Within two (2) school days of receipt of the appeal, the Athletic Director shall notify the student and parents of a hearing to be held under the following rules and regulations:

1. A letter stating the date, place and time of the hearing is to be sent to the athlete's parent(s) or guardian(s).
2. Witnesses may be presented at the hearing and the athlete or his/her parent(s) guardian(s) shall have the right to question any witness that is testifying against the athlete. It shall be entirely within the Appeal Council's discretion to admit only those people whom the council feels are essential to insure a fair and equitable settlement of the appeal.
3. The Athletic Appeal Council shall render a written opinion of its findings to all parties concerned within two (2) school days of the appeal hearing.

The Brown City Athletic Council has the power to uphold, modify, or reverse any previous decisions. Should the

Committee reverse a decision, all records regarding the situation will be removed from the file of the Student Athlete. Suspensions or expulsions will stand and be in force during hearing proceedings or until such time as the Council deems.

ATHLETIC APPEAL COUNCIL - IN CASE OF SUSPENSION

APPEALS

ATHLETIC APPEAL COUNCIL - IN CASE OF SUSPENSION

MEMBERSHIP

Superintendent and/or High School Principal

Athletic Committee Board Members

Athletic Director

*In the case of a conflict of interest the superintendent will appoint an appropriate replacement.

DUTIES OF ATHLETIC APPEAL COUNCIL

1. Rules on appeals concerning disciplinary suspension from athletics.
2. As necessary, the Athletic Director, could appoint a committee to review/discuss changes in the Athletic Policy or Code.

WARNING

Parents and students should fully understand and appreciate the risk of serious personal injury associated with participation in the educational sport's program provided by the Brown City Schools.

The Brown City Community Schools do not assume responsibility relative to doctor, ambulance or medical expenses. Athletics are a voluntary, extra-curricular program in which the student may participate if he/she so desires but does so at their own risk of injury.

PARENTS AND STUDENTS WHO DO NOT WISH TO ACCEPT THE RISKS DESCRIBED IN THIS WARNING SHOULD NOT ALLOW THEIR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE.

INSURANCE

Parents should carry accident or health insurance and are satisfied that this type of insurance gives sufficient coverage for participation in the interscholastic program.

Brown City Community Schools **DOES NOT** provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by your child at school.

PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE

As a parent or legal guardian, I authorize and give my permission for my son/daughter, _____, grade _____, to participate in the Brown City Athletic Program.

I also authorize and give my permission for my son/daughter to be medically treated for an emergency at the discretion of the coach or school official.

The Brown City Community Schools DOES NOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY relative to Doctor, Ambulance or Medical Expense. Athletics are a voluntary extra-curricular program in which the STUDENT may participate in if he/she so desires but does so at their own risk of injury.

As the undersigned, I hereby acknowledge, on this date, that I have received, reviewed, understand and support the rules, guidelines and punitive actions for violations of the rules and guidelines as set forth in the Brown City Athletic Code.

Signature of Brown City Athlete _____ Date _____

Signature of Brown City parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

By my name and signature below, I acknowledge in accordance with Public Acts 342 and 343 of 2012 that I have received and reviewed the Concussion Fact Sheet for Parents and/or the Concussion Fact Sheet for Students.

Signature of Brown City parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

***MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE BROWN CITY ATHLETIC OFFICE PRIOR TO THE FIRST SCHEDULED CONTEST.**

****UPON SIGNING, THE ATHLETIC POLICY WILL BE IN EFFECT YEAR ROUND (IN SEASON/OUT OF SEASON) UNTIL CONCLUSION OF SENIOR CONTESTS.**