

# Rainbow District Elementary Sports Council (RDESC)

## Statement of Aims and Expectations

### Aims:

To offer students opportunities to participate in an athletic program that is organized and administered by the RDESC under the jurisdiction of the Rainbow District School Board.

### Expectations:

Provide an environment for participation and competition within the schools in which the following ideals are nurtured and developed:

- Ensure school work and academics is a top priority
- Fair play
- Respect for self and others
- Cooperation
- Self-discipline
- Positive leadership
- Fun
- Self confidence
- Self-esteem
- Improve skill and fitness
- Promote a life long commitment to athletics and physical activity

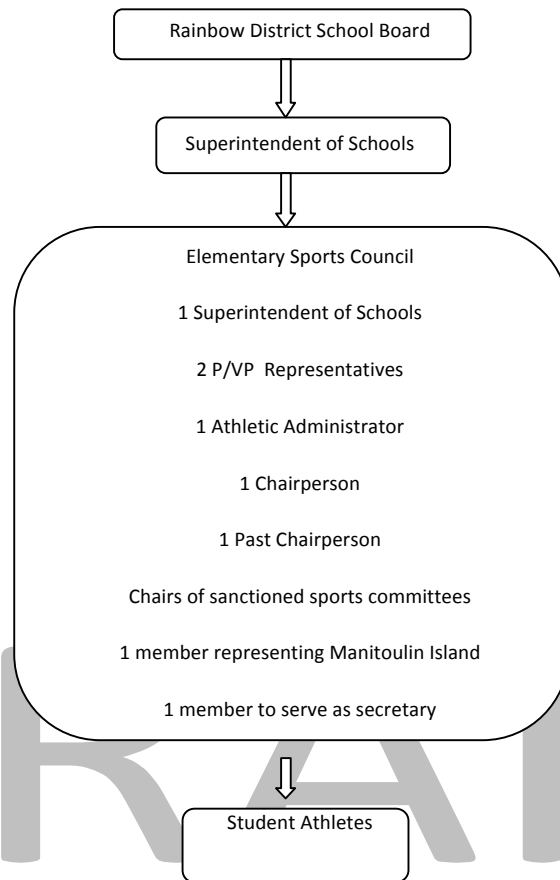
## Member Schools

Member schools consist of schools within the Rainbow District School Board. Students who are not enrolled in a member school of the RDSB shall not be permitted to participate in a RDESC Championship Except where partnerships have previously been established to co-host championships such as track and Field. Non Rainbow District School Board members may be consider for invitational competition.

## Role of the RDESC

The Rainbow District Elementary Sports Council shall be the governing and decision-making body responsible for establishing, upholding, and modifying all By-laws pertaining to the co-instructional athletic programs in the Rainbow District School Board elementary schools.

## Governance Model



Chairs or the sanctioned sports committees and the member representing Manitoulin Shall have voting rights.

## Duties of Membership

### Chairperson

- shall prepare agendas for each meeting
- shall be spokesperson for the RDESC
- shall maintain communication among the council, school board and member schools
- shall be a member of the Board of Reference and involved in the dispute process
- shall oversee the duties of convenors
- shall chair meetings

### **Past Chairperson**

- shall sit on the RDESC for an additional year as a resource person to the council
- shall ensure that the constitution and Sports By-laws are updated annually
- shall take on responsibility of the Chairperson in his/her absence

### **SDSSAA Administrator**

- shall act as an advisor to the council
- shall keep a record of championship winners and order awards
- shall act as media relations liaison in conjunction with the Board communication officer
- shall maintain the Elementary Sports Website

### **Secretary**

- Is an existing member of the Sports Council
- Shall maintain and circulate minutes of meetings

### **Superintendent of Schools**

- will oversee the operation of the RDESC
- will chair the Board of Reference

### **Principals'/VP Representatives**

- one shall be appointed as the Principal delegate to the Board of Reference
- shall provide a link with the Elementary Principals' Council
- shall ensure that the expectations and regulations as outlined in the constitution are met

### **Convenors Representatives**

- shall represent the interests of their sport and those of all other sports competed in under the Rainbow District School Board
- shall ensure that the expectations and regulations as outlined in the constitution are met
- shall bring forward motions, concerns or agenda items from their sport
- shall organize and schedule the sport championship
- shall report to the Council
- shall act as a resource to all member schools
- shall meet with officials to receive updates on rules and regulations
- shall communicate any rule or regulation changes to member schools

### **RDESC Operating Guidelines**

#### **Voting Procedures**

- each Council member has one vote
- voting is conducted with a show of hands
- a quorum of six is required
- 2/3 majority of those members in attendance is necessary to pass a motion

#### **Agenda Items**

Agenda items may be submitted to the Chairperson by:

- principals through their RDESC principals' representatives
- staff/coaches through their regional representatives
- directly from members of the council

All agenda items must be submitted in writing two weeks prior to the meeting.

## Coaches' Code of Ethics

As a professional educator and /or coach within the Rainbow District School Board I will endeavour to:

- Exemplify a positive role model for students
- Promote fair playing time for all athletes
- Emphasis school work and academics as a priority for all student athletes
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete
- Encourage maximum pupil participation
- Temper the goal of winning with positive, competitive learning experiences
- Encourage sportsmanship and fair play
- Abide by the rules of the game in letter and in spirit
- Respect the integrity and judgement of the officials
- Encourage respect for all athletes and their values
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- Promote ethical relationships among coaches
- Encourage proper training practices in preparation for participation (min. one practice per week during the competitive season)
- Develop qualities of leadership, initiative, good judgement and sporting attitude in each athlete

## **Coaches' Responsibilities**

The principal of the school will approve the selection of coaches. A staff advisor must be assigned to each

team where the coach is not an employee of the Rainbow District School Board.

Coaches shall:

- Be responsible to the principal
- Be responsible for the supervision, safety and general welfare of the student athletes under their care
- Be responsible for carrying out their responsibilities according to the policies and guidelines set down by the RDESC and in accordance with the current O.P.H.E.A. Safety Guidelines
- Be responsible for carrying out their responsibilities according to the Coaches' code of Ethics
- Review the Code of Conduct for Student Athletes with their student athletes
- Be responsible for distribution and collection of FT-10 (informed consent forms) prior to commencing practices
- Make an effort to attend in-service activities for personal and professional growth
- Follow the RDESC constitution and policies
- Hold a minimum of one practice per week during the competitive season

## **Principal Responsibilities**

- Ensure that OPHEA Safety Guidelines are adhered to
- Must select a staff representative for elementary athletics
- Ensure that each community coach has a staff advisor
- Ensure that all coaches and athletes follow the code of conduct as stated in the constitution
- Ensure that the school only participate in invitational tournaments that respects the aims and expectations of the RDESC

## **Student-Athlete Code of Conduct**

The principal of the school will approve membership of all student athletes. No student athlete will attend a practice until a signed FT-10 has been received by the school.

Student Athletes shall:

- Participate in a spirit of fair play
- Keep up with school work expectations
- Adhere to the applicable rules of the sports' event, host site and home school
- Respect the decisions of the officials, adult supervisors and teachers on-site
- Wear appropriate athletic clothing
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- Respect fellow athletes, coaches and officials
- Use courteous and respectful language and good manners at all times
- Ensure that the event site is left litter-free

### **Failure to Adhere**

If a situation arises where the student athlete fails to adhere to the Code of Conduct, the following consequence(s) may be applied:

- Removal from the game or event
- Removal from the site and returned to the home school
- Removal from all athletic participation for a designate team

## **Process for Resolving Disputes**

In the event that an issue arises regarding an inter-school athletic activity, the following process shall be used:

- An attempt will be made to resolve the issue at the time of the incident with the people involved
- The issue, if not resolved at the school level by the principals, coaches and other parties, shall be forwarded in writing to the chairperson of the RDESC
- The chairperson and two additional members of the RDESC (Dispute Resolution Committee) will gather relevant information and attempt to resolve the issue within the framework of the constitution/playing regulations

## **Reporting of incidents**

- Incidents occurring at a tournament involving players, coaches or fans will be reported to the chair of RDESC. It will be the responsibility of tournament convenors to submit the written account of the incident.
- Any consequence needs to also be reported to the chair
- The chair will determine if that information needs to be distributed to any other parties and inform those parties

## **Appeals Process**

An appeal of the decision(s) of the Dispute Resolution Committee must be made in writing to a Superintendent of Schools within 7 business days.

- The superintendent of schools will notify coaches and /or parent/guardian, the Principals and all members of the Board of Reference of the date, time and location of the hearing
- The Board of Reference hearing will be held within 7 days upon receipt of the request
- The decision of the Board of Reference will be final



## Eligibility

Junior: grades 4-6

Intermediate: grades 4-8

A junior aged student athlete may participate in junior and intermediate competition.

## Seasons of play

- Intermediate Soccer Sept to mid Oct
- Cross country running Sept to second last Thursday in October
- Intermediate Volleyball Oct to Second week in Dec
- Intermediate Basketball Jan to mid April First two weeks after the March Break
- Junior Volleyball Jan to first week in Feb
- Junior basketball Feb after volleyball to first week in May
- Junior soccer May - June
- Track and Field May - June

## Playing Regulations

Playing regulations will be posted by individual sports via the Rainbow District School Board elementary Web page. Regulations will be reviewed every year by each sport governing body. OPEA guidelines will also be posted and distributed so that coaches are aware of guideline expectations.

## Sports

Sanctioned sports indicate that there will be a board championship and that banners medals will be awarded. Sanctioned and Non-sanctioned classification will be reviewed at the June meeting of RDESC each year. If there are new sports that a school is interested in introducing, the idea will have to be presented at the September RDESC meeting in order for it to be considered. All sports being offered through a Rainbow District School Board member must have been accepted through the committee before it can be offered.

### **Sanctioned Sports (JR/INT)**

- basketball
- volleyball
- cross country
- track and field
- soccer

### **Non-Sanctioned Sports**

- nordic skiing
- badminton
- curling
- slopitch
- floor hockey
- hockey

Non-sanctioned sports must have playing regulations and a convenor. Non-sanctioned sports will not be considered board championships. In order for a sport to be considered application must be made before the June meeting in order for a decision to be made for the following year.

OPHEA guidelines must be provided distributed along with tournament information.

### **Sanctioning of Championships**

- season of play (minimum of two events)
- playing regulations approved by Council
- minimum of 50% of member school's participating in sport

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