

# **INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS**

**[C24]**

## **I. PURPOSE**

This policy describes how Thetford Academy will offer athletic programs to all students.

## **II. POLICY**

It is the policy of the Board to provide an interscholastic athletic program for students to complement and supplement their educational programs. All school-sponsored activities shall be under the auspices of Thetford Academy and shall comply with all policies and procedures of the school.

## **III. COMPONENTS OF POLICY**

### **A. Athletic-Program Criteria**

1. Programs shall provide athletic facilities and opportunities for participation on an equal basis to all students regardless of gender.
2. Programs shall employ qualified personnel in coaching and supervision positions.
3. Programs shall stress the benefits—not only recreational and social but also the development of healthy habits, positive sporting conduct, and integrity—derived from participation in interscholastic sports.
4. Programs shall conform fully to the rules and regulations of the Vermont Principals' Association.

### **B. Criteria for Students' Participation in Interscholastic Sports**

1. In order to participate in interscholastic sports, student-athletes shall maintain good academic and social standing as outlined in the Thetford Academy Athletic Handbook.
2. Students also shall meet the criteria set forth in the guidelines of the Vermont Principals' Association.

### **C. Responsibilities of the Head of School**

The Head of School shall make determinations related to individual activities to be included in the school's athletic program based on the following considerations:

- the level of student interest in participating in an activity;
- the level of community interest in an activity;
- the impact of adding or eliminating an activity on the balance of opportunities for girls and boys to participate in the total athletic program;
- the potential of the activity to remain competitive with other participating schools; and
- the availability of qualified personnel to coach and supervise the activity.

ADOPTED: April 11, 2019