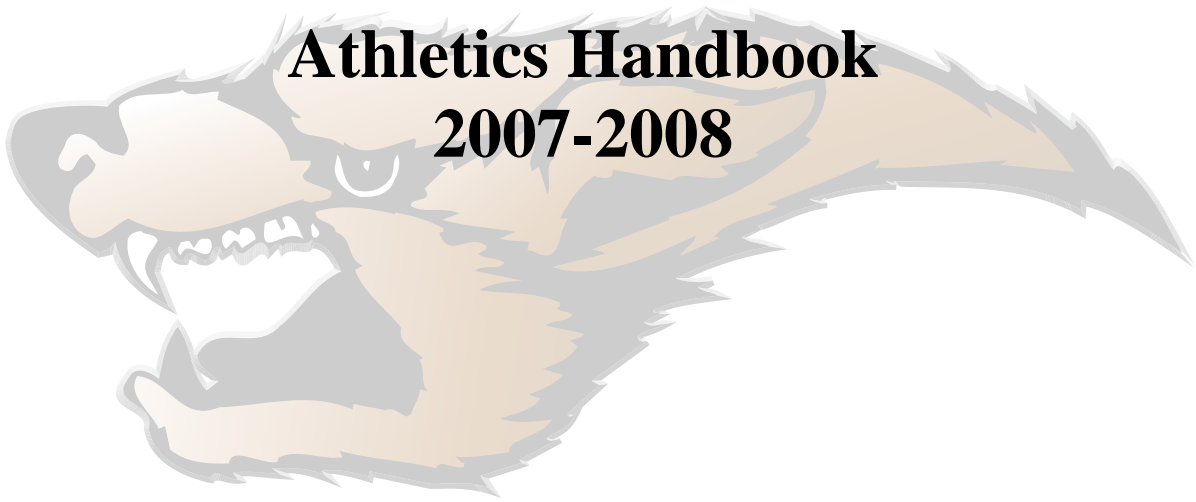


WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL

Wolverines

ED ROSS, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND ECA ADMINISTRATOR

Parent/Student-Athlete Athletics Handbook 2007-2008



A Guide for Parents & Student-Athletes of the Watkins Mill HS Athletic Department

**Ed Ross
Athletics Director
Extracurricular Activities Administrator
Edward_J_Ross@mcpsmd.org**

**10301 Apple Ridge Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
Office: 301-840-3979
Fax: 301-840-3956**

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Edward J. Ross

As one of many extracurricular activities available at the high school, athletic participation can serve to assist young people in their personal growth and development by reinforcing the valuable principles of sound leadership; and among other attributes, athletics can assist in promoting the importance of team work and team unity, the importance of hard work, loyalty, and dedication to tasks. As well, participation in athletic activity can teach the importance of establishing life-goals and working toward their achievement; and the development of good sportsmanship traits that teach competitors the value of upholding humility in victory and determination in defeat.

Although it is with every fiber of his or her existence that the competitive athlete strives to be the very best, winning and losing become secondary issues when compared to the manner in which athletes conduct themselves on and off the field. While exhibiting dignity and grace in the face of adversity, athletes must remain aware of a greater purpose to be first, Ladies and Gentlemen; second, Students; and third, Athletes.

In reality, scoreboard results become fleeting memories when compared to the lasting effect of an individual's effort put forth in pursuit of a greater, collective purpose. While athletes do not always perform at the same level, it is the maximum effort, dedicated commitment, and positive attitude that define the core of a winning character; and it is with hope that this will transfer into a world beyond the activity itself.